

September , 2022

Dear Member of Congress,

As Religious and those affiliated with Religious Congregations, we urge you to support and pass the ***Afghan Adjustment Act (S.4787 / H>R>8685)*** as part of the upcoming **FY 2023 Continuing Resolution**. This is important bipartisan legislation to provide a roadmap to permanent status for evacuated Afghans resettled in the U.S. It is essential to prioritize the relocation and bring vulnerable Afghan allies left behind to safety. They were faithful to us, and we must be loyal to them.

Across faith traditions, the message is clear. The Qur'an directs Muslims to do good to the needy and welcome strangers and those they meet on the road. Christians and Jews are admonished to "Treat the stranger who sojourns with you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt." Leviticus 19:33-34.

We call upon Congress to stay faithful to our government's promises to at-risk Afghans who put their faith in us even as they assisted our military. More than 75,000 Afghans were admitted into the United States via "humanitarian parole." This is a temporary immigration status that expires after one to two years. The Adjustment Act will provide safety, prevent family separations, and alleviate insecurity for Afghan allies in the U.S. and those still waiting for admission to safety.

We know that security experts, refugee resettlement agencies, Afghan Americans, women's rights leaders, veterans' groups, and legal experts have supported the Afghan Adjustment Act. We add our voices and believe Congress has a moral responsibility to act swiftly.

Thank you for your attention to this critical issue.

Sincerely,