



Caribbean-American Political Action Committee

Advancing the political agenda of Caribbean Americans

C-PAC CHAT The Community Speaks

The members of our community who responded to our recent questionnaire, listed as their major concerns immigration (27%); health care (20%); unemployment (14%); and climate change (14%). With respect to immigration, your concerns are not unfounded.

The current administration's plan is to move the immigration approval process away from family-ties and humanitarian needs, to a skills or merit-based system. The stated aim for this change is, "to bolster border security." The proposed plan will limit the number of green cards issued to around 1.1 million annually. Allocation of green cards (permanent residence) will favor highly skilled and educated individuals with employment or investment prospects. Those seeking green cards through family ties to U.S. citizens, or humanitarian needs, will not be given the same consideration as before. Also, English fluency will be included as a determining factor.

These proposed changes to the immigration regulations will be advantageous to European immigrants, and disadvantageous to African and Caribbean immigrants. Whether this is intentional or unintentional, the results will be the same. And by the way, did you know that as of May 31st this year, in order to obtain a visa, even if it's just to visit relatives for a few days, U.S. State Department is now demanding that visa applicants provide their social-media profiles and share their social-media handles or identifiers used in the past five years?

What can you do? The "Welcome to the United States A Guide for New Immigrants," is chock full of information for new immigrants.

<https://www.uscis.gov/sites/default/files/files/nativedocuments/M-618.pdf>

Keep abreast of some immigration changes by regularly checking for updates here

<http://www.homelandsecuritynewswire.com/>