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American Immigration Lawyers Association New England Chapter denounces the President's Proclamation restricting entry of skilled temporary workers, managers and executives, exchange visitors.

Boston, Massachusetts

Using dubious arguments grounded in little or no real economic data, the President of the United States today suspended entry of highly skills workers, managers and executives of multinational companies, certain exchange visitors, and non-agricultural temporary workers. Such executive action is taken in the name of protecting U.S. workers at the margin between employment and unemployment who are particularly vulnerable to "excess labor." The President claims to protect marginalized workers who are minorities, lack college degrees, or have disabilities. It is not clear how suspending entry of workers who must have college degrees, a history of managing organizations, specialized knowledge, seek additional training following college, are teachers, will care for children, or simply travel during the summer will help marginalized workers.

The Trump Administration's continuing and thinly veiled assault on legal immigration will damage the American economy by stifling the very innovation and entrepreneurship most needed to build and rebuild an economy battered by the pandemic. This senseless ban will harm important American sectors including universities, hospitals, and tech companies, who rely on foreign-born talent for innovation and leadership in areas that are in short supply. This will have a particularly harsh impact in the Boston area where the innovation economy is our economic engine. Blocking people with these needed skills will harm our regional economy, further hurting those very Americans that the administration claims to be protecting.