

Sample Email Text

Background: With a burgeoning Afghan refugee crisis; the push to include a path to citizenship in the reconciliation package; the Administration’s continued closure of the southern border to most asylum seekers; and, the new fiscal year for refugee admissions fast approaching, now is the time to connect with your Representatives and Senators about these issues, while they’re home for recess. Here is a sample email text you can use to reach the district offices of your Senators and Representative.

Step 1: Use www.govtrack.us to find your Representative and Senators

Step 2: Use the legislator’s website to find email for constituent concerns

Step 3: Make this email text your own

Dear _____

I’m reaching out as a constituent who lives in _____, as well as (a member of congregation or coalition if appropriate) and a grassroots volunteer with HIAS.

I’m reaching out because I want to see _____ stand for this country being a welcoming place in the following ways:

First, _____ urge the Biden Administration to prioritize humanitarian evacuations from Afghanistan. We are witnessing a humanitarian crisis unfold in real time as Afghans desperately try to escape violence and retaliation at the hands of the Taliban. This situation is dangerous not only to Afghans and their families who were affiliated with the U.S. mission, but also human rights advocates (especially women and girls), journalists, and religious and ethnic minorities, all of whom will face grave danger without immediate assistance.

Second, _____ publicly support including a path to citizenship in the coming Reconciliation package. Dreamers, people with TPS status, essential workers and their families need a fair pathway to citizenship and this reconciliation package may be the best way to make that happen. After the judge’s ending of new applications for DACA, it is clear that a legislative solution is necessary.

Third, _____ be a part of welcoming unaccompanied children and asylum seekers at the border, by calling on the Biden Administration to terminate Title 42 expulsions, and ensure unaccompanied children are safe, housed, fed, and cared for. Children and families coming to the border are not a “surge” — they are people in need seeking safety and a better life, and Title 42 expulsions are illegal, immoral, and unnecessary.

Finally, _____ hold the Biden Administration to keep its promise to rebuild the U.S. refugee resettlement program by setting the refugee admissions goal at 125,000 refugees for Fiscal Year 2022 and to support robust funding for the refugee resettlement program. The administration is required

by law to consult with Congress by September 30th before deciding the refugee admissions goal for next year. Our country can – and should – safely resettle more refugees and reunite more families.

Our community stands for welcome, and I urge you to reflect the best of our nation by supporting these efforts.

Sincerely,