



Office of the President

PULAA/019/VSF-PRO-2/03/01/2019

Proclamation Notice Declaring the Month of March as Immigration Month

WHERE AS, the Union of Liberian Associations in the Americas (ULAA or The Union) is the Umbrella Organization of ALL Liberian organizations in the United States of America.

WHERE AS, IMMIGRATION ADVOCACY remains the single most issue of The Union's Diaspora Agenda;

WHERE AS, every year The Union is in the vanguard of advocating for immigration benefits for Liberians on temporary status with continued push for permanent residency, which may lead to the path of US Citizenship;

WHERE AS, previous Administrations of the United States of America granted temporary status for Liberians on Deferred Enforced Departure (DED);

WHERE AS, on March 27, 2018 President Donald J. Trump directed the Secretary of Homeland Security to take appropriate measures to terminate DED for all Liberian beneficiaries effective March 31, 2019;

WHERE AS, President Donald Trump's directive includes a 12-month wind-down period, which began on March 31, 2018;

WHERE AS, Liberians currently on DED benefits will be out of status on April 1, 2019;

WHERE AS, The Union began immediate action with her advocacy by reaching out to all of her member chapters and stakeholders, including Members of Congress and lawyers groups after President Trump's announcement on March 27, 2018;

WHERE AS, The Union is currently pursuing direct lobbying of U.S. leaders and increased partnership with other immigration lobbying groups and member chapters to push for the re-authorization of DED for Liberians.

NOW, THEREFORE, the National Administration of The Union through my office, and with the power invested in me as the National Executive President of the Union of Liberian Associations in the Americas, do hereby declare the Month of March 2019 as Liberian National Immigration Month, and I am calling on ALL Member Chapters and Liberian organizations within the borders of the United States of America to observe this Month by calling on President Donald Trump and your respective Congressmen and Congresswomen to grant Deferred Enforced Departure to ALL Liberians currently serving as beneficiaries.

FURTHERMORE, I direct the National General Secretary of The Union to disseminate this Proclamation to ALL Liberians and their various organizations in the United States of America.

Issue on this 1st day of March, 2019, in Washington, District of Columbia (DC), the Headquarters of the Union.

Signed: _____

Vamba S. Fofana

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE PRESIDENT