

EVANGELICAL IMMIGRATION **table.**

July 15, 2025

Dear Members of Congress,

We write to urge you to consider the newly-reintroduced Dignity Act, sponsored by Representative Maria Salazar (R-FL), which would establish a restitution-based legalization process for immigrants present in the United States unlawfully who are willing to pay a significant fine as a penalty for their violation of an immigration law, to submit to and pass a criminal background check and to meet other appropriate requirements. Equally as important, the proposal does not provide amnesty. Instead, it would actually exclude these individuals from receiving federal benefits and/or entitlement program resources for which they have not paid in. Moreover, the Dignity Act would ensure that immigrants who have committed violent crimes are deported—keeping our communities safe.

While the vast majority of evangelical Christians believe that violent criminals should be prioritized for deportation, [Lifeway Research](#) finds only 17 percent of evangelicals say the same about those who would be willing to pay a fine as restitution for breaking U.S. immigration laws. The fines and penalties proposed by the Dignity Act would more than cover the billions of dollars that the bill proposes to improve border security, addressing another core immigration policy concern for evangelical Christians — but without expanding the federal deficit. The bill would also ensure due process for individuals persecuted for their faith or other reasons under U.S. law who wish to seek asylum, but without releasing individuals into the interior of the United States to await far-off immigration court proceedings. These two policy priorities — improving border security and creating a restitution-based legalization process for immigrants in the country unlawfully — are supported by 76 percent of evangelical Christians, including about seven-in-ten evangelicals who voted for President Trump in 2024.

As Christians committed to the rule of law, rooted in the biblical conviction that God has ordained the government to restrain evil and ensure order, we believe the Dignity Act offers necessary reforms to help achieve a permanent immigration policy that remedies wrong-doings, protects our communities, and aligns with the priorities of evangelical Christians.



We urge you to work together to pass bipartisan reforms consistent with these biblical values, guarding against chaos either at our borders or in our churches and workplaces. And as you do so, please know that we are committed to praying for you.

Sincerely,

Evangelical Immigration Table Organizations:

Asian American Christian Collaborative
Council for Christian Colleges & Universities
Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention
National Association of Evangelicals
National Latino Evangelical Coalition
World Relief