

Position Paper

Committee: **U.S. Senate**

Topic: **Immigration Reform**

Character: **Senator Adam Schiff**

Immigration Reform in the USA – General

Immigration has been a much debated and controversial topic in the USA for quite some time now. However, the nation's immigration system has faced increasing challenges in recent decades, including border security concerns, labor shortages, asylum backlogs, and the status of undocumented individuals. The Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) of 1965 serves as the foundation of modern immigration policy, but with changing economic and geopolitical landscapes, calls for comprehensive reform have grown louder.

Currently, the U.S. struggles with a highly politicized debate on immigration. While some advocate for stricter enforcement measures, others emphasize a more humanitarian approach, including pathways to citizenship and protections for vulnerable populations. Key issues include the fate of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients, Temporary Protected Status (TPS) holders, visa backlogs, and the role of immigrants in the workforce.

Despite bipartisan recognition that the system is outdated, legislative efforts to enact comprehensive immigration reform have repeatedly been stalled. The need to balance border security with humanitarian concerns, address labor market demands, and ensure an efficient legal immigration process remains at the forefront of Senate deliberations.

Senator Schiff's Position

Senator Adam Schiff has consistently advocated for fair and humane immigration policies that uphold American values while ensuring national security and economic stability. As a devoted defender of immigrant rights, The Senator supports a path to citizenship for Dreamers and comprehensive immigration reform that balances enforcement with fairness.

Senator Schiff has criticized extreme border policies that prioritize deterrence over dignity, arguing that humane and orderly immigration processing is both achievable and necessary. He has opposed efforts to repeal DACA, recognizing that Dreamers contribute to the economy, serve in the military, and form an integral part of American communities. Senator Schiff has also pushed for expanding legal pathways for asylum seekers and reforming visa programs to support businesses in need of skilled and essential workers.

Furthermore, Senator Schiff has called for increased funding for immigration courts to reduce case backlogs, ensuring due process for asylum seekers while maintaining

efficiency in the system. He supports modernizing border security through technology and intelligence-driven solutions rather than relying solely on physical barriers. Additionally, Senator Schiff has backed legislative efforts to protect TPS (temporary protected status) recipients, preventing unnecessary deportations that would destabilize communities and economies.

Senator Schiff was recently named on 4 committees, one of them being the Agriculture Committee. The Senator's decision to join the committee was influenced by immigration concerns. Immigration has a strong and direct effect on agriculture, with 42% of all agriculture workers in the USA being undocumented immigrants. Senator Schiff opposes motions for deporting immigrants and underlines them being a critical part of American society.

As the Senate debates the future of immigration reform, Senator Schiff remains committed to policies that reflect America's identity as a nation of immigrants while addressing the complexities of modern migration challenges.

Senator Schiff's Vision for Immigration Reform: A Balanced and Humane Approach

Being a new Senator, Senator Schiff plans to take a proactive approach in shaping immigration policy by working to find practical solutions. Senator Schiff believes that immigration reform should not be a partisan issue but rather a national priority that reflects America's core principles. By advocating for evidence-based policies, Schiff aims to create an immigration system that is both humane and effective.

Senator Schiff believes in reforming immigration policies to ensure that the U.S. remains a land of opportunity while maintaining national security. The Senator supports greater congressional oversight and independent audits to ensure that immigration policies are effective and humane.

Senator Schiff is committed to ensuring that immigrant communities feel safe and supported. He advocates for policies that prevent discrimination against immigrants and promote their full integration into American society, including access to education, healthcare, and worker protections. The Senator believes that by fostering inclusivity, the U.S. can harness the full potential of immigrant contributions to the economy and culture.

Additionally, Senator Schiff supports labor market reforms that expand work visa opportunities for industries facing labor shortages while ensuring fair wages and protections for American workers. The Senator believes in increased funding for immigration courts and legal representation to reduce asylum backlogs and provide fair hearings for migrants.

In order for us to find a solution that provides relief for our dreamers and for the Farm Workers who put food on our table it must be comprehensive if it's going to be

effective. Senator Schiff believes that all people should be treated with respect and dignity. We can have both a strong border but also treat people as human beings.

Keeping this in mind, is the only way to reform immigration in a manner that is consistent with our values as Americans.

Position paper

Committee: US Senate

Topic: Foreign Aid

Character: Senator Adam Schiff

Foreign Aid in the USA – General

Foreign aid has long been a pillar of U.S. foreign policy, serving as a tool for humanitarian relief, economic development, and national security. The modern framework for U.S. foreign aid was established with the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, which created the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and set the foundation for America's global development efforts. Over the decades, U.S. foreign aid has taken multiple forms, including humanitarian aid for disaster relief, economic assistance to promote stability and trade, and military aid to support key allies.

As of recent years, the U.S. remains the largest foreign aid donor in the world, contributing approximately \$60 billion annually to over 100 countries. Major recipients include Ukraine, which receives military and economic support to counter Russian aggression; Israel, a long-standing strategic ally; and sub-Saharan African nations, which receive health and development aid to combat poverty and disease. However, foreign aid remains a highly debated issue in the U.S. Senate, with concerns over budgetary constraints, aid effectiveness, and national interests shaping the discourse.

In addition to humanitarian goals, foreign aid is also used as a diplomatic tool to counter rival influence, such as China's Belt and Road Initiative, and to promote democratic governance and human rights worldwide. Yet, critics argue that foreign aid can lead to corruption, dependency, and inefficiencies, raising questions about how to optimize aid distribution while ensuring transparency and measurable outcomes.

As the U.S. Senate continues to deliberate on the role and scope of foreign aid, the challenge remains to balance national interests with humanitarian responsibilities,

ensuring that American assistance remains both effective and aligned with strategic priorities.

Senator Schiff's Position

As a member of the U.S. Senate, Senator Adam Schiff has been a vocal advocate for robust foreign aid, emphasizing its critical role in supporting allies and promoting global stability. Senator Schiff has consistently supported emergency assistance packages, notably voting in favor of aid to Israel following the October 7 attacks, underscoring the importance of backing key partners in times of crisis. Senator Schiff has also urged congressional leadership to expedite supplemental aid for Ukraine, Israel, and Taiwan, highlighting the urgency of reinforcing alliances and addressing humanitarian needs. Senator Schiff has criticized delays in providing this assistance, arguing that such inaction undermines U.S. credibility and emboldens adversaries.

In the context of the 2025 foreign aid review initiated by Executive Order 14169, Senator Schiff has expressed concerns that suspending aid programs could harm vulnerable populations and diminish U.S. influence abroad. Senator Schiff also advocates for a balanced approach that ensures accountability in aid distribution while maintaining commitments to international partners and humanitarian efforts.

On February 7th, 2025, President Donald Trump placed the majority of USAID direct hire personnel on involuntary administrative leave, which effectively paused the work of the USAID. Senator Schiff believes that this action will cause harm not only to the countries that stopped receiving aid and to the personnel put on administrative leave, but also to Americans. The Senator is also certain that USAID represents decades of soft power that the United States has built. Senator Schiff believes this has shown allies of the United States of America that the USA stands by them in crises. The Senator is certain that this builds valuable partnerships for the USA and that pausing its work would have devastating results.

Overall, Senator Schiff's stance reflects a commitment to leveraging foreign aid as a strategic tool to advance U.S. interests, support democratic allies, and uphold humanitarian principles.

Senator Schiff's Vision for Foreign Aid: Reform, Accountability, and Strategic Impact

Senator Schiff advocates for reforming – not reducing - U.S. foreign aid programs, aiming to strengthen their effectiveness in supporting diplomatic relations, national security interests, and humanitarian assistance efforts.

The Senator supports greater congressional oversight and independent audits to ensure aid is used effectively. To achieve this, Senator Schiff proposes the T.R.A.C.K. framework—Transparency, Reform, Accountability, Compliance, and Knowledge—to enhance oversight and ensure aid aligns with measurable outcomes.

Senator Schiff advocates for legislation that ties aid to measurable outcomes, ensuring recipient nations meet clear benchmarks in governance, economic development, and human rights. Senator Schiff emphasizes continued aid to Ukraine, Israel, and Taiwan as vital for U.S. national security.

Additionally, Senator Schiff supports sustained humanitarian aid to regions affected by conflict, famine, and natural disasters, ensuring the U.S. remains a global leader in crisis response.

Senator Schiff opposes drastic cuts to foreign aid, warning that reducing assistance weakens American influence and allows adversaries like China and Russia to fill the void.

The Senator supports modernizing aid programs to enhance their efficiency while maintaining commitments to key allies and humanitarian efforts. This critical step will be recognizing that government aid alone is insufficient.

Senator Schiff supports leveraging private sector investment to complement foreign assistance. The Senator advocates for partnerships between American businesses, NGOs, and international organizations to foster economic growth in developing regions. To prevent future disruptions in aid programs, Senator Schiff proposes bipartisan legislation that ensures humanitarian funding, strengthens U.S. alliances, and prevents unilateral executive actions from freezing critical aid initiatives. Senator Schiff believes Congress should have a stronger role in overseeing aid distribution.