

# Legal Immigration

## POLICY PROPOSALS

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1. Establish a merit-based immigration system, in which America selects the majority of future immigrants based on skills, as opposed to the current majority family-based system in which immigrants select future immigrants based on relations.
2. End chain migration.
3. End universal birthright citizenship.

## QUICK FACTS

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1. Many countries around the world such as Canada, Australia, and the U.K. successfully use merit-based immigration systems.
2. 56 percent of Canadian immigrants and 62 percent of Australian immigrants are merit based, compared with fewer than 15 percent in the U.S.
3. In 2016, illegal immigrant births accounted for 7.5 percent of all births in the U.S., totaling over 297,000.

  
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# Legal Immigration

## SAFE, PROSPEROUS, AND FREE

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- U.S. immigration policy should keep the American people safe, prosperous, and free.

## A SYSTEM FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

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- Our current legal immigration system is outdated and fails both immigrants and Americans.
- Prioritizing “merit”—the ways immigrants can contribute to the country—over distant family connections, like many other countries do, helps ensure immigrants can thrive in our country while maximizing the benefits of immigration for Americans.

## STEP-BY-STEP REFORMS

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- Congress must consider the full range of necessary reforms to legal immigration, border security, and enforcement, using a step-by-step approach to address each on its own merits rather than a comprehensive approach that often leads to amnesty.