34TH DISTRICT, TEXAS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CAPITAL MARKETS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL SECURITY,
ILLICIT FINANCE, AND INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL
INSTITUTIONS

COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-4315

August 6, 2025

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> > gonzalez.house.gov

Juan Agudelo
Field Office Director
Enforcement and Removal Operations
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
1717 Zoy Street
Harlingen, Texas 78552

Dear Mr. Agudelo:

I write in support of my constituent Ms. Juana Melendez and her children from San Benito, Texas. Ms. Melendez and her family are respectfully requesting additional time to submit a new application for consideration.

Ms. Melendez submitted an I-131, Application for Parole Documents for Military Parole-in-Place in November 2024, which was denied in June 2025. In the notice, she was informed that she had 33 days to submit a Form I-290B, Notice of Appeal or Motion or risk voluntary removal proceedings. With assistance of her immigration attorney, she submitted the appeal is awaiting a decision by USCIS.

Ms. Melendez has, a daughter who is on her 7th year in service and a 21-year-old son who is proudly serving overseas in the U.S. Navy. Her daughter is currently on leave and will be shipping out in service of our country. In addition, Ms. Melendez has a four-year-old daughter who depends on her for care and support. She is a single mother who has contributed to our community for over 25 years, a proud small business owner, and not a danger to society. Since 2012, she has been operating a landscaping business, paying taxes and supporting her family. We cannot deport families of decorated American heroes that pay taxes and positively contribute to our community. Ms. Melendez has raised a respectable, educated, and humble family that is currently giving back to our country. We should not be tearing families apart or sending U.S. Citizen children to another country. Ms. Melendez and her family are respectfully requesting additional time to submit a new application for consideration.

Thank you for your full and fair consideration to this request. I look forward to hearing from your office. If you have any questions or need any additional information, please feel free to reach out to Brenda Rangel, Senior Caseworker, at my Brownsville district office at (956) 682-5545.

Sincerely,

Vicente Gonzalez Member of Congress