

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

August 27, 2019

The Honorable Kevin K. McAleenan
Acting Secretary
United States Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20528

Dear Acting Secretary McAleenan:

We respectfully request that you reconsider a recent decision by the USCIS San Francisco Field Office to deny extending deferred action on the deportations of Maria Isabel Bueso Barrera [REDACTED] Alberto Bueso Mendoza [REDACTED] Karla Maria Barrera De Bueso [REDACTED] and Ana Lucia Bueso Barrera [REDACTED].

The Bueso family emigrated to the United States in 2003 in order to obtain lifesaving medical treatment for Maria Isabel, who suffers from a rare, genetic condition known as Maroteaux-Lamy Syndrome, or Mucopolysaccharidosis Type VI. By participating in a medical trial, Maria Isabel has been able to receive lifesaving treatment that for the past 16 years requires weekly, day-long infusions at UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital in Oakland. According to the drug manufacturer, they are unable to provide this life-saving treatment in Guatemala.

Maria Isabel was not expected to live past 7 years old. But now, because of her treatments, she is 24 years old and lawfully residing with her family in Concord, California. In 2018, she graduated summa cum laude from California State University-East Bay where she spent her time advocating for patients with rare diseases. She has been in the United States since she was 8 years old.

To save her life and the lives of other Americans, Maria Isabel is now participating in another drug trial. She is also in need of upcoming surgeries, which her doctors say would be most successful and safe for her to undergo in the United States.

As noted in your files, pursuant to all rules and regulations by the Department of Homeland Security, the Bueso family has legally remained in the United States since 2003, first as B-2 visa holders, then as H-1 B and H-4 visa holders, and presently under deferred action for humanitarian purposes. The decision to deny extending Maria Isabel and her family deferred action on their deportation will prevent Maria Isabel from receiving the treatment and surgeries she needs to survive. Removal from the United States would likely result in her death.

For these reasons, we respectfully request that you reconsider the decision to deny extending deferred action on deportation for the Bueso family. We trust that the Department and its respective affiliates will give this matter the thoughtfulness and serious consideration it deserves.

Please keep our offices abreast of this matter. Thank you for your attention and consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Handwritten signature of Mark Desaulnier in blue ink.

MARK DESAULNIER

Member of Congress

Handwritten signature of Kamala D. Harris in blue ink.

KAMALA D. HARRIS

United States Senator