



October 19, 2020

Dear USC community,

As part of our continued efforts to support our international students, faculty, and staff, we have been closely following the federal government's recent efforts to make significant changes to the H-1B visa program. Two recently proposed rules, which were issued without opportunity for public comment, would restrict career opportunities for H-1B visa holders, and make it more difficult for them to retain eligibility for critical jobs they already perform.

These actions would have serious consequences for international scholars across America. Today, USC is joining a group of leading research, educational, and economic institutions in a federal lawsuit challenging the new visa guidelines.

Our country benefits immensely from the work of uniquely talented and innovative people who come from around the world. At USC, H-1B visa holders use their highly specialized expertise and knowledge to advance work that fuels innovation, serves the public good, and saves lives.

Nothing matters more than the well-being of our students, faculty, and staff. We will continue advocating strongly for them.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carol L. Folt".

Carol L. Folt
President

cc: President's Senior Leadership Team
Academic Deans
Provost's Leadership Team
Academic Senate
Staff Assembly
GSG President
USG President