

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 6, 2025

The Honorable Kristi Noem
Secretary of Homeland Security
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
2707 Martin Luther King Jr Ave SE
Washington, DC 20528

The Honorable Marco Rubio
Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20520

Mr. Todd Lyons
Acting Director
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
500 12th Street NW
Washington, DC 20536

Dear Secretary Noem, Secretary Rubio and Acting Director Lyons:

We write with alarm regarding your agencies' decision to revoke the visas of a number of international students across New Hampshire's institutions of higher education and to terminate students' records in the Student Exchange and Visa Information System (SEVIS). We ask that you reconsider this decision.

We have heard extreme concern from international students and colleges and universities across New Hampshire who have seen students' visas unexpectedly revoked and their SEVIS records terminated. Many report having received no notification of or justification for these actions. This is entirely unacceptable. While we appreciate that the Administration has subsequently reversed terminations for certain individuals, the chaos and uncertainty the Administration has caused for international students, including those who have already left the country or lost employment opportunities, is not reversible.

New Hampshire's international students make important contributions to our state's educational community and economic output. According to the National Association of Foreign Student Advisors (NAFSA), international students contributed \$198.4 million to New Hampshire's economy and supported 1,703 jobs during the 2023–2024 academic year. In addition to these immediate economic benefits, international students play a key role in connecting community members and domestic students with a variety of cultures from around the world.

As visa revocations and terminations of SEVIS records are likely to force international students to leave the state and may deter future students from considering study in the United States, New Hampshire's institutions of higher education and its economy will be forced to bear the consequences. Small colleges, which face unique financial challenges, will face particular economic uncertainty. In addition, given that a quarter of international students stay and work in New Hampshire after they graduate, losing international students will further exacerbate the extreme shortage of high-skilled workers that our state faces, impeding its economic growth. It is a grave mistake to turn away talented international students and give our adversaries another opportunity to capitalize on and undermine our national security interests.

In light of these concerns, we urge you to reconsider your decision to revoke student visas and terminate SEVIS records for international students of institutions of higher education in New Hampshire, and we request that you provide us with the following information:

1. The total number of visa revocations and SEVIS record terminations for New Hampshire students since January 20, 2025, including those whose status termination was restored on or after April 25, 2025;
2. A description of the process by which students and schools were notified of such actions and how they were informed of the justification behind the decision; and
3. The process by which individuals can appeal these visa revocations and SEVIS terminations.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,



Jeanne Shaheen
United States Senator
Ranking Member, Senate Foreign
Relations Committee



Margaret Wood Hassan
United States Senator



Chris Pappas
Member of Congress



Maggie Goodlander
Member of Congress