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Project PATH

Responsible Immigration & Visa Accountability

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Project PATH

Pre-Authorization and Tracking for Humanity

A bipartisan framework for responsible immigration and lawful travel verification

Executive Summary

Project PATH proposes a modern, efficient, and humane way to track lawful immigration and verified departure from the United States. The system integrates airline ticketing, TSA screening, and Customs and Border Protection (CBP) data to verify traveler compliance automatically—ensuring that visitors depart legally and that U.S. immigration records remain accurate.

This initiative promotes responsible immigration, fiscal stewardship, and national integrity while preserving America's identity as a compassionate and welcoming nation. It is a bipartisan concept that blends accountability with accessibility and technology with humanity.

The Problem

While the United States maintains robust entry procedures, it lacks a consistent method for confirming when foreign nationals leave the country.

- **No exit verification:** The U.S. does not routinely record or stamp passports upon departure.
- **Unreliable data:** Airline manifest systems are prone to name mismatches, data errors, and missing records.
- **Visa overstays:** Each year, hundreds of thousands of individuals remain past their authorized stay, straining social systems and undermining legal immigration pathways.
- **Fiscal impact:** Visa overstays and undocumented presence cost federal, state, and local programs billions annually, weakening social safety nets and eroding confidence in lawful immigration.

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This gap creates both administrative inefficiency and public mistrust in the immigration system.

The Solution: Project PATH

Project PATH would establish a comprehensive, technology-driven exit verification system that operates seamlessly within existing travel infrastructure.

Key Components

1. Ticket-Based Pre-Authorization

- When travelers purchase an international ticket, their passport and visa data are automatically cross-referenced with CBP databases.
- o CBP pre-validates the traveler's departure eligibility, returning one of three digital codes: *Clear*, *Review*, or *Hold*.

2. Integrated TSA Verification

- At the airport, TSA's screening system reads the traveler's boarding pass and passport, confirming the CBP clearance code.
- Any "Review" or "Hold" cases are diverted to CBP officers for immediate resolution before reaching the gate.

3. Automated Exit Record

- The system automatically updates DHS records when a traveler clears TSA and boards their flight, closing the loop on their entry record.
- This digital "stamp-out" replaces manual passport stamping and significantly reduces data errors.

4. Privacy and Efficiency

- o Minimal additional processing time for compliant travelers.
- o Secure data handling compliant with DHS and TSA privacy standards.

Benefits

- Accountability: Confirms legal departure and deters visa overstays through real-time verification.
- **Efficiency:** Integrates with existing airline and TSA infrastructure, reducing the need for new checkpoints.
- **Security:** Enhances national safety through accurate traveler tracking without added bureaucracy.
- **Fiscal Stewardship:** Reduces costs associated with visa abuse, undocumented overstays, and systemic inefficiencies.

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• **Compassionate Governance:** Protects travelers who follow the law, preserving fairness and trust in the system.

Implementation Roadmap

1. Pilot Program (Year 1)

- Test PATH at three major airports—Atlanta, Chicago, and Los Angeles—to cover diverse travel volumes and demographics.
- o Partner with major airlines for ticket integration and validation testing.

2. Data Integration (Years 2-3)

- Establish full TSA-CBP system linking with real-time reporting to DHS.
- o Evaluate accuracy, processing speed, and privacy safeguards.

3. Nationwide Rollout (Years 4-5)

- o Implement at all international airports.
- o Expand gradually to select seaports and land crossings where appropriate.

Bipartisan Alignment

Project PATH aligns with core priorities across the political spectrum:

- **For Conservatives:** Strengthens border integrity, enforces the rule of law, and reduces fiscal strain.
- **For Progressives:** Protects human dignity, improves fairness, and modernizes governance through technology.
- For All Citizens and Visitors: Builds a transparent, humane, and sustainable process for lawful travel.

Conclusion

Project PATH brings responsibility and compassion together. It leverages technology already in use—ticketing systems, TSA verification, and CBP databases—to build a smarter, fairer immigration process. By ensuring that every traveler's journey begins and ends within the law, it restores public trust, protects national resources, and preserves America's moral leadership as a nation of both law and welcome.