



綠卡持有人禁止領福利 移民社區人心惶惶

該文件表示,未來將禁止綠卡持有人領取福利,成為公共負擔(public charge),被禁止的福利包含糧食券。

近日網上流傳一份兩頁紙文件,號稱是川普政府正在起草中的行政命令,被網友稱為“史上最強的綠卡移民申請福利改革”,嚇得移民社區很多綠卡持有者不知所措。

據美國移民法律與移民局(USCIS)手冊,親屬移民若成為“公共負擔”,即不能再入境或調整身分,還可被遣返。公共負擔是指,移民要仰賴政府現金援助維持收入,或是聯邦資助的長期醫療服務。

移民律師表示,移民圈一直傳說川普政府會出台移民新政策,但他不認為這份傳說的行政命令是真的。“公共負擔”是正式的法律定義,總統不可能靠行政命令去修改法律定義,不能隨意新增一些項目作為“公共負擔”。

移民律師表示,公共負擔的議題主要針對親屬移民來美的人,而他們在申請移民時都有美國公民作保證,一旦他們有拿美國福利,擔保人將負責償還這筆費用。

從川普 2017 年上任開始,移民社區一直感到恐慌。以舊金山“新鮮食物計畫”(Calfresh,前身為糧食券)為例,全市應有 10 萬人(家庭)符合申請資格,但只有一半人申請,還有一半人似乎不敢申請,而且每個月都有上百戶家庭退出申請計劃。

此外,申請白卡的人數也在減少。以紐約為例,全市有三分之一居民用白卡支付看醫師、去醫院、請家庭護理。但從去年開始,申請人數驟減,因為很多移民擔心,申請白卡會被視為吃政府福利,導致收到罰單甚至被遣返。

在北加州,一些華人合法移民,因為擔心接受某些醫療保險計畫成為公眾負擔被遣返,在看病時只付現金。儘管移民團體一直鼓勵符合條件的移民別懼怕申請白卡,但大家的擔憂仍然未消失。

Meet Cleveland Clinic's New Leader New Leader

Tom Mihaljevic, MD, a cardiac surgeon who previously served as CEO of Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi, became the new CEO and President of Cleveland Clinic on Jan. 1.

"To be CEO of Cleveland Clinic is a great responsibility," Dr. Mihaljevic says. "Our patients come to us with tremendous expectations. We must meet and exceed those expectations, and assure that every patient who comes to us has the best outcome and experience."

In his new position, Dr. Mihaljevic leads an \$8 billion health-care system that includes a main campus, 10 regional hospitals, 18 family health centers, and facilities in Florida, Nevada, Toronto, Abu Dhabi and, soon, London. He succeeds Toby Cosgrove, MD, who led Cleveland Clinic from 2004 to 2017 and now serves as executive advisor to the new administration.

Tom Mihaljevic, MD

"Tommy is his own man," Bob Rich, Chair of Cleveland Clinic's Board of Directors, is quoted as saying in an article in The Plain Dealer. "But he has a keen appreciation for what the culture is, what brought us to where we are and what we have to do to stay in a leadership position. I think he's going to be a great leader not only in medicine around the world but in Cleveland, Ohio."

From Croatia to Cleveland, With a Few Stops In Between

Dr. Mihaljevic's route to Cleveland Clinic's top office took him from Croatia, to Switzerland, to Boston, to Cleveland, to Abu Dhabi, and now back to Cleveland.

Born in Zagreb, Croatia - then part of communist Yugoslavia - Dr. Mihaljevic earned his medical degree at Zagreb University. Because his family was anti-communist, his job options were limited. Dr. Mihaljevic volunteered where he could, and found work as a nurse assistant.

"I've done all the worst possible jobs you can have in a hospital," he says. "I wouldn't trade that experience for anything."

He was accepted into the graduate program at Zurich University in Switzerland, where he trained with Marco Turina, MD, a leading cardiac surgeon in Europe. In 1995, out of a pool of 600 applicants, Dr. Mihaljevic was one of the five

who were selected for surgical residencies at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston.

Dr. Mihaljevic went on to become an associate surgeon in the Division of Cardiac Surgery, Director of the Cardiac Surgery Research Center, and assistant



professor of Surgery at Harvard Medical School. During much of that time, he was being recruited by Dr. Cosgrove to join Cleveland Clinic. In 2004, he joined the staff of Cleveland Clinic's No. 1-ranked heart team.

"I had a gut feeling that Cleveland was the right place for me to be."

An Experienced Leader

In 2010, he accepted Dr. Cosgrove's invitation to join the soon-to-be-opened Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi as Chief of Staff and Chair of its Heart & Vascular Institute. He led a recruitment effort there that drew 5,500 applications for 175 physician posts, and he went on to launch the most advanced cardiovascular program in the Middle East.

As CEO of Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi from 2015 to 2017, he oversaw the opening in 2015 of the 365-bed hospital

and clinic, with 3,000 caregivers. In the summer of 2017, the Board of Directors chose him from a large group of candidates to be the next Cleveland Clinic CEO.

Dr. Mihaljevic, who has given up his surgical practice to devote himself to his job as Cleveland Clinic's CEO and President, performed nearly 3,000 operations over the course of his career. He specialized in minimally invasive and robotic-assisted procedures, valve replacement and repair, image-guided surgery, heart failure and cardiac transplantation.

Continuing a Culture of Caring

"I'm an enthusiastic American," Dr. Mihaljevic says. "And to me, Cleveland Clinic embodies all the ideas that make America great. That includes the opportunity to be the best you can, based on your individual merits and not your background."

Today, Dr. Mihaljevic is busy meeting and learning from caregivers and members of the Cleveland Clinic community.

Learn more about Dr. Mihaljevic in this video as he thanks donors for their ongoing support and investment in the success of Cleveland Clinic.

"I look forward to preserving and enhancing the culture and dynamics of this great organization," he says.

His first official message to caregivers on New Year's Day reflected his determination to continue Cleveland Clinic's culture of caring.

"Treat Cleveland Clinic and its resources as if they were yours," he said. "And treat every patient as if they were a member of your family."



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