

—Slug:.....COMM-0844.opin.letter.000\_vt-afghan  
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—For section.....Voices/Letters from readers  
—Format..... LETTERS - Opinions - Letters to the Editor  
—Dateline.....  
—Article Number:.....42716

**Notes from editor (not for publication):**

HEADLINE ELEMENTS:

####BEGIN HED####

Deeply opposed to new refugee review policy

####END HED####

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####END SUBHED####

TEXT BODY:

####BEGIN TEXT####

Following is a joint statement from the Vermont Afghan Alliance and the Central Vermont Refugee Action Network on the proposed action regarding refugees:

The latest proposed action from the presidential administration regarding refugees is a truly disheartening one. What the administration describes — a reopening and review by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) of over 200,000 refugee cases dating from January 2021 to February of

12 this year — would be devastating to a group in this country that  
13 has already been faced with mounting challenges this year.

14 Refugees, after leaving their homes due to any number of  
15 destabilizing factors, including war and persecution, receive a  
16 tremendous amount of vetting before entering the United States,  
17 providing little legitimate basis for a blanket review such as the  
18 one outlined by USCIS.

19 Moving forward with this action would not only be a  
20 highly impractical use of government resources, it would also  
21 send hundreds of thousands of people in this country into a place  
22 of uncertainty and fear, with extreme consequences for those  
23 who do not meet the government's new standards.

24 As organizations dedicated to serving the refugee  
25 population in Vermont, we are deeply opposed to this proposed  
26 action. We will continue to work alongside refugees, who have  
27 only made our communities stronger and more vibrant.

####END TEXT####

BIO/COATTAIL:

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####END BIO/COATTAIL####

LAST ISSUE IN WHICH THIS FILE CAN BE RUN:

####BEGIN MAXISSUE####

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LINKS:

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VIDEO:

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LOGLINE (SOCIAL MEDIA):

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