

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

November 13, 2014

The Honorable Jeh Johnson
Secretary of Homeland Security
3801 Nebraska Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20016

Dear Secretary Johnson:

We write in support of Ibrahim Parlak, a resident of Harbert, Michigan, and his efforts to remain in the United States.

Ibrahim Parlak is a model immigrant. Born a Kurd in southern Turkey, he faced severe persecution for simply being a member of a minority group. In 1991, he came to the United States seeking the freedom he had never had in his homeland, and was granted asylum by our government in 1992. He has since lost his Turkish citizenship and Turkey does not seek his extradition.

In his twenty-three years here, Mr. Parlak has personified the American dream. Through hard work and perseverance, he learned English and worked his way up from being a busboy to owning his own small business, Café Gulistan, in a small town in Michigan. He has put down deep roots and enriched his community in Michigan, as evinced by the many friends and other people who have written in support of his efforts to stay in this country. And he is the father of an American daughter, Livia.

We urge you to allow Mr. Parlak to continue his contributions to his community and the life he has built here by exercising your discretion to prevent further removal proceedings or litigation against him. We believe you are familiar with the facts in this case, and we would be happy to discuss them further with you. Please feel free to contact either one of us directly, or have your staff contact Ben Brenner of Senator Levin's staff at (202) 224-4383 or Nick Culp of Congressman Upton's staff at 202-225-3761.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Congressman Fred Upton



Senator Carl Levin