

Executive Order 14160: Protecting The Meaning and Value of American Citizenship

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The executive order limits birthright citizenship, changing how the Fourteenth Amendment is interpreted. It denies U.S. citizenship to certain children born in the US if their mother is undocumented, and their father is neither a U.S. citizen nor a green card holder. It also denies citizenship if their mother is on a temporary visa (tourist, student, work) and their father is neither a citizen nor a green card holder. The order states that only biological mothers and fathers count in determining a child's citizenship and instructs federal agencies from issuing birth certificates, passports, or Social Security numbers for affected children. The order was required to take effect on March 1, 2025, and only applies to children born after that. It requires agencies like the State Department, DHS, and Social Security Administration to enforce the policy.

Community Impact

- Without citizenship documents, affected children may struggle to access healthcare, education, jobs, or government services. Families with some U.S. citizen children and some non-citizen siblings may face deportation risks and separation.
- Schools must educate all children (Plyler v. Doe, 1982) but may face documentation challenges. Hospitals may struggle to register births, impacting insurance and medical care.
- Communities with large immigrant populations, like Aurora, may see increased demand for legal aid and social services.
- Parents may avoid hospitals or birth registration, worsening public health and economic disparities. Over time, stateless individuals could struggle to work, drive, or get financial aid, hurting local economies.



Executive Orders of the Trump Administration

Introduction

The president has issued over 100 executive orders covering various policies, some of which faced legal challenges. Executive orders allow the president to direct government actions but cannot override laws passed by Congress. They take effect immediately or require additional steps by government agencies.

Trump's use of executive orders has raised concerns, especially when they undermine civil rights, health equity, and social justice. While executive orders can be useful, they can also cause harm. Courts, Congress, and future presidents can overturn them if they are unconstitutional or against federal law.

What Is an Executive Order? How Is It Different from a Law?

An executive order is a directive from the president telling the government how to enforce existing laws. It can set priorities, guide federal agencies, and shape policies, but it cannot create new laws or override Congress.

In contrast, laws must be passed by Congress and signed by the president (or passed over a veto). Congress also controls taxation, spending, and major decisions like declaring war.

Think of it this way: Congress sets the rules, and executive orders help determine how those rules are carried out.

How Can Executive Orders Be Stopped?

Executive orders are powerful tools, but they're not unstoppable. There are three main ways they can be overturned:

- Congressional Action If Congress has the authority, it can pass a law that reverses an
 executive order.
- **Court Challenges** If an executive order violates the Constitution or federal law, courts can strike it down.
- Future Presidents A new president can undo or change an existing executive order.

These checks and balances help ensure executive orders align with our laws and democratic principles.

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