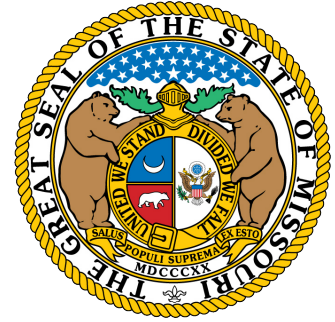


Get the Facts:

Governor Parson's Decision on Refugee Resettlement



“Our administration is thankful for President Trump’s leadership on this issue, and we look forward to working with the President and his administration to **ensure the responsible resettlement of lawfully admitted and vetted individuals.**”

– Missouri Governor Mike Parson

Governor Parson recently announced his consent to refugee resettlement in Missouri in response to Executive Order 13888 signed by President Donald J. Trump on September 26, 2019.

Who is coming in?

The refugees involved must go through proper federal channels and will be **appropriately screened and vetted to ensure that they are not a threat** before being placed in communities. This decision allows the existing systems to continue assisting **legally admitted** people and programs.

Will this increase the number of refugees in Missouri?

We currently project an increase of **500 individuals** who will settle in communities that have specifically **applied to receive them**. Governor Parson’s support allows state organizations to **continue to cooperate** with the federal authorities authorized to resettle refugees. President Donald J. Trump’s executive order, was intended to better facilitate **cooperation and coordination** between federal, state, and local authorities on refugee resettlement **programs that were already in existence**.

Who approves who comes in?

President Trump’s administration governs who is allowed to enter the country, and the **federal government has exclusive authority** to make decisions on who to let in or keep out (Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952, 8 U.S.C. 12). Governor Parson’s letter is in response to President Trump requiring state and local authorities to **consent to the continued settlement of refugees** within their states. However, the approval still comes from the federal government.

Who will assist with the transition?

In Missouri, there is a **nonprofit organization** called the Missouri Office of Refugee Administration (MO-ORA) that was **designated by federal officials to assist with refugee resettlement**.

MO-ORA partners with only five different groups from St. Louis, Kansas City, Springfield, and Columbia to **assist with placement of legal refugees** into communities **and to help assimilate** refugees with education and jobs.

How does this affect the State of Missouri?

Missouri will continue to work hard to ensure **lawfully admitted and fully vetted refugees** become a thriving part within the State of Missouri in the communities that request them, in **accordance with all applicable laws and regulations**.