



September 19, 2017

The Honorable Paul Ryan
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
1233 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
233 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Speaker Ryan and Leaders McConnell, Pelosi, and Schumer:

On behalf of the undersigned organizations, we are writing to urge you to join with your Congressional colleagues and to act—before the end of September—on bipartisan legislation that would create protections for young undocumented immigrants (also referred to as Dreamers). Currently, Senators have re-introduced bipartisan legislation that would give legal permanent residence to young immigrants who came to the U.S. as children if they meet certain conditions. Members of the House of Representatives have also demanded a vote on such legislation.

We—the members, partners, and allies of Hispanics in Philanthropy—also join with those voices and call on Congress to protect Dreamers' personal information in the DACA database¹, and to act on bipartisan legislation immediately.

As philanthropic leaders and givers, community leaders, leaders of labor organizations, civil rights leaders, and business leaders, we are pained and displeased about the Administration's decision to rescind the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) executive order. We believe that this decision threatens the future of young adults who arrived to this country as children, through no fault of their own, and for whom the United States is the only home they have every known.

The DACA program allowed nearly 800,000 Dreamers the basic opportunity to work and study without the threat of deportation. It allowed all participants who grew up in America and registered with our government the opportunity to diligently give back to our communities by furthering their education, adding their talent and work ethic to our workforce, and paying income taxes. More than 97 percent are in school or in the workforce; five percent have started their own business; 65 percent have purchased a vehicle; and 16 percent have purchased their first home. At least 72 percent of the top 25 Fortune 500 companies count DACA recipients among their employees².

¹https://www.uscis.gov/sites/default/files/USCIS/Resources/Reports%20and%20Studies/Immigration%20Forms%20Data/AIL%20Form%20Types/DACA/daca_performancedata_fy2017_qtr2.pdf

²<http://money.cnn.com/2017/09/01/technology/ceos-trump-daca/index.html?iid=EL>



**HISPANICS
IN PHILANTHROPY**
The power of giving and connecting

By rescinding DACA, our federal government removed any protection for these hardworking young people and every one of them is now vulnerable. These Dreamers trusted us with their futures—and their personal information, which now exists in a government database. This trust now puts them at immediate risk of deportation. We expect you, as our representatives in Congress, to pass legislation that provides these young people, raised in our country, the permanent solution they deserve.

We thank you in advance for your immediate action to preserve and protect the future of DACA program participants.

Sincerely,

Hispanics in Philanthropy (HIP)

Anti-Defamation League (ADL)

Service Employees International Union (SEIU) 32BJ

YWCA USA

National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy (NCRP)

CHANGE Philanthropy

Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in Philanthropy (AAPIP)

Women's Funding Network

Neighborhood Funders Group (NFG)

Philanthropic Initiative for Racial Equity (PRE)

[Signatures of over 1,000 individuals](#)

CC: The Honorable Chuck Grassley, Chairman, U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary
The Honorable Dianne Feinstein, Ranking Member, U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary & DREAM Act Cosponsor
The Honorable Bob Goodlatte, Chairman, U.S. House of Representatives Committee on the Judiciary Committee
The Honorable John Conyers, Ranking Member, U.S. House of Representatives Committee on the Judiciary Committee
The Honorable Michelle Lujan Grisham, Chair, U.S. House of Representatives, Congressional Hispanic Caucus
The Honorable Pete Aguilar, Whip, U.S. House of Representatives, Congressional Hispanic Caucus
The Honorable Lindsey Graham, U.S. Senate, DREAM Act Cosponsor
The Honorable Jeff Flake, U.S. Senate, DREAM Act Cosponsor
The Honorable Cory Gardner, U.S. Senate, DREAM Act Cosponsor
The Honorable Lisa Murkowski, U.S. Senate, DREAM Act Cosponsor
The Honorable Michael Bennet, U.S. Senate, DREAM Act Cosponsor
The Honorable Catherine Cortez Masto, U.S. Senate, DREAM Act Cosponsor
The Honorable Richard Durbin, U.S. Senate, DREAM Act Cosponsor
The Honorable Kamala Harris, U.S. Senate, DREAM Act Cosponsor