

## Protect Dreamers, Their Families, and Communities

Our nation is stronger because of the immigrants who come to our country every year. But millions of people live in the shadows, fearing imminent separation from their families, prolonged detention, or a return to life-threatening situations. As president, Joe Biden has promised to protect Dreamers and their families. But any executive action is a short-term response. Immigrants and their communities need permanent solutions, and the only way to do that is through congressional action.

For nearly a decade, individuals with Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) status have had their lives in limbo. The Trump administration, and then the courts, repeatedly attempted to undermine their status. These individuals with DACA status are part of a much larger group of approximately three million Dreamers who came to this country as children, grew up in our communities, and know no home but the United States.

In 2019, the House passed the Dream and Promise Act (H.R. 6) to create a path to legal status for many of these young people. But this legislation must be renewed at the beginning of the 117th Congress.

**We urge Congress to prioritize passage of a permanent legislative solution that is at least as strong as the Dream and Promise Act within the first 100 days of the 117th Congress. Any legislative solution must contain the following:**

- » A roadmap to lawful permanent resident status and U.S. citizenship for immigrant youth who entered the United States before age 18, have four or more years of residency, and graduated from high school (or the equivalent).
- » An opportunity for people who currently hold (or who may be eligible for) Temporary Protected Status or Deferred Enforced Departure and have three or more years of residence in the U.S. to apply for permanent residence and, eventually, U.S. citizenship.
- » No harmful measures that shut the door to other categories of immigrants.

These measures, in 2020, had broad support from members of Congress, *1,200 faith leaders*, and *140 of the nation's top businesses*.

**Publicly support re-introduction and passage of the Dream and Promise Act, or similar legislation.**

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