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. Congressional action is needed to overhaul the U.S. immigration system and create a permanent solution for pathways to citizenship.

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 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.

The Dream and Promise Act (H.R. 6), introduced in the House, creates a path to citizenship for undocumented youth and other immigrant groups, such as holders of Temporary Protected Status. More must be done, but this legislation is an important first step.

We urge members of the House to quickly pass the Dream and Promise Act (H.R. 6), and we call on the Senate to immediately take up and pass this bill, or legislation similar to it.

The Dream and Promise Act would:

» Establish a roadmap to lawful permanent resident status and U.S. citizenship for undocumented immigrant youth who entered the United States before the age 18, have four or more years of residency, and graduated from high school (or the equivalent).

» Provide 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.

» Contain no harmful measures that shut the door to other categories of immigrants.

» Have broad popular backing. Provisions of Dream and Promise legislation have support from members of Congress, 1,200 faith leaders, and 140 of the nation’s top businesses.

Co-sponsor and vote for the Dream and Promise Act (H.R. 6) in the House and similar legislation in the Senate.

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March 2021