

Dear Senator Tillis,

November 20, 2022

We, members of Eno Friends Meeting of Hillsborough, are writing you to let you know our concern over the lack of action in the Senate to pass legislation that could provide citizenship pathways to our undocumented immigrant neighbors. We are urging you to resume bipartisan immigration talks and pass these pathways to citizenship: Dream Act of 2021 S. 264 and SECURE Act S. 306.

We are frustrated that the House passed key legislation in March 2021, yet the companion legislation remains stalled in the Senate. Our country needs legislation that will provide citizenship pathways for Dreamers and Temporary Protective Status and Deferred Enforced Departure holders. You have voiced concerns for Dreamers as well as farmworkers in our state and we are expecting you to follow through with action. We believe that your leadership could move this legislation forward. We feel it is cruel to our undocumented neighbors to hold them hostage to relentless “border security” debates, despite the stability they offer to North Carolina and the nation.

The Dream Act and Promise Act provide a real pathway to citizenship for our friends who are currently trapped in this state of limbo. As you know, these neighbors contribute greatly to the North Carolina economy. Our state’s farm workers, and the farmers who depend upon them, need to be protected. The people this new bill directly impacts are important to the fabric of our society in many ways and we depend on them to fill the country’s growing gap of workers.

As Quakers, we believe that there is the Light of God in every person. Yet, we have witnessed our neighbors, who want to contribute to our society, be treated inhumanely by our government. They deserve to live in the security of knowing that their families will stay united. Please help lead this legislation forward.

Morrow Dowdle, clerk
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