COALITION *for the*
AMERICAN DREAM

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
Democratic Leader
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable John Thune
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Democratic Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Johnson, Leader Thune, Leader Schumer, and Leader Jeffries:

We write as American companies large and small, trade associations, and employers from every major sector of the U.S. economy to urge Congress to pass a narrow, bipartisan solution finally providing permanent protections for Dreamers.

Together, we employ thousands of Dreamers, young people brought to this country as children and raised as Americans. They are our doctors and nurses, our teachers, our manufacturing technicians, our software engineers, our farmworkers, our first responders, and our colleagues. The average Dreamer came to the United States at the age of six, has lived here for more than a quarter century, and has been enrolled in the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) policy for over a decade. They have passed background checks, paid fees, paid taxes, and built careers in healthcare, education, infrastructure, technology, and industries across the U.S. economy. And our companies have invested years in training and developing these employees.

President Trump has stated publicly that DACA recipients should "feel safe" in the United States. That is our goal, too; however, it is not the reality most DACA recipients and their families are living today. DACA's protections are being weakened without any single, formal action. This introduces real uncertainty into the lives of recipients, the operations of their employers, and the communities that rely on their contributions every day.

This issue has become urgent because the stability that DACA has provided to recipients, their families, and their employers is being meaningfully eroded. The Associated Press has reported that the average DACA renewal time increased by more than 400% from 2025 to 2026, pushing otherwise eligible recipients out of valid status, and out of jobs, through administrative delay

alone.[1] The Department of Homeland Security has reported that more than 260 DACA recipients were detained in 2025, including people whose protections were granted and renewed in good faith by the federal government.[2] Now the Board of Immigration Appeals has issued a new decision making it easier to remove people with DACA status. On top of these attacks on the program and Dreamers themselves, first-time DACA applications have been frozen for years.

Further ongoing litigation in Texas is likely to strip work authorization from DACA recipients in that state in the near term. Texas is home to roughly 84,000 DACA recipients, 83 percent of whom are currently in the workforce, with 175,000 U.S. citizens living in their households. Losing their work authorization would mean tens of thousands of Texans removed from jobs they have held for years, where they are contributing income taxes as well as Social Security and Medicare payroll taxes, businesses losing trained employees overnight, and families losing the income stability they have built in communities across the state. This isn't just harmful to DACA recipients and their families, it will have a real, lasting impact on businesses and native born Americans in our communities. Congress should act before that ruling forces businesses to terminate employees they cannot quickly relocate or replace.

When a DACA recipient loses their protections because of an administrative backlog, a classroom loses its teacher, a hospital loses a clinician, and an employer loses a skilled worker in whom it has invested years of training. When a DACA recipient is detained or deported, the disruption harms their U.S.-citizen children, spouses, and coworkers. These outcomes are avoidable, and they undermine confidence in an immigration system that DACA recipients followed in good faith.

As we await congressional action, we will continue to advocate that the administration ensure timely, predictable renewals for recipients of DACA. But it is well past time for Congress to address this crisis.

Support for permanent protections for Dreamers is among the most durable and popular bipartisan positions in American politics. Strong majorities of Republican and Democratic voters have consistently supported a pathway to citizenship for this population, and successive Congresses led by both parties have expressed support for a solution. The continued operation of DACA itself, fourteen years after its creation, reflects the program's broad public support and the

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[1]Rebecca Santana, "Delays mount for hundreds of thousands of immigrants seeking DACA renewals," Associated Press, https://apnews.com/article/daca-renewal-delays-1d81a8ba01b202f65a20206af53c23ad.

[2]Camilo Montoya-Galvez, "ICE Arrested Hundreds of DACA Recipients in 2025, Internal Data Show," CBS News, https://www.cbsnews.com/news/daca-recipients-ice-arrested-2025-trump-administration/.

recognition by leaders in both parties that removing Dreamers from the workforce and from their communities would be a grave mistake.

Despite this support, lasting legislation to protect Dreamers, their families, and the businesses that employ them has failed to become law. Administrative protections are not enough. As we are seeing today, the policies that govern DACA can be too easily eroded and limited without permanent legislation. Only Congress can provide the lasting certainty that Dreamers, their families, and the businesses that employ them need to plan for the future. We respectfully urge Members of both chambers and both parties to come together to enact a narrow, permanent legislative solution for Dreamers without further delay.

We stand ready to work with you and your offices to advance this longstanding bipartisan goal.

Sincerely,

The Coalition for the American Dream