

September 21, 2017

The Honorable Paul D. Ryan
Speaker of the House
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Senate Majority Leader
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
House Minority Leader
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
Senate Minority Leader
Washington, D.C. 20510

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

The undersigned organizations are writing to urge you to quickly enact legislation that would make the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program permanent. The Administration's troubling decision to rescind DACA would break apart families and target almost a million young individuals who have demonstrated a commitment to educational advancement and being productive members of the workforce.

America is a nation of immigrants. Many DACA participants were brought here when they were very young and have known only the United States as their homeland. This land is their land just as it is ours. They have all received high school diplomas and over a third have gone onto earn or are pursuing degrees from institutions of higher education. These laudable men and women are making substantial contributions to the communities they live, work, and study in and are helping to grow the U.S. economy.

We cannot turn our backs on and break faith with the hundreds of thousands of DACA recipients. They are a significant part of our future and already play key roles in the armed forces, as first responders, in fast-growing STEM fields, and in other vital sectors. It is imperative that Congress act promptly to provide a lasting solution that will formalize DACA. We stand ready to assist you in this critical endeavor.

Sincerely,

American Association of Geographers
Alliance of Crop, Soil and Environmental Science Societies
American Anthropological Association
American Geographical Society
American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
American Society for Cell Biology
American Society of Agronomy
Association of Research Libraries
Brandeis University
Center for Global Policy Solutions
Crop Science Society of America
Farmworker Association of Florida

Global Alliance for Behavioral Health and Social Justice
Linguistic Society of America
NAACP
National Collaborative for Health Equity
National Communication Association
National Latino Farmers & Ranchers Trade Association
Rural Sociological Society
Social Psychology Network
Soil Science Society of America
The City Project
University of Oregon