
HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 4016

State of Washington 65th Legislature 2018 Regular Session

By Representatives Ortiz-Self, Harris, Ryu, and Peterson

1 TO THE HONORABLE DONALD J. TRUMP, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,
2 AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF
3 REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
4 THE UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, AND THE SECRETARY OF THE
5 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE:

6 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of
7 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled,
8 respectfully represent and petition as follows:

9 WHEREAS, Nearly eighteen thousand bright young people in
10 Washington state are beneficiaries of the federal deferred action for
11 childhood arrivals (DACA) program; and

12 WHEREAS, The Washington state legislature, on a strong bipartisan
13 basis in 2014, passed the Washington DREAM Act, removing barriers to
14 higher education for these dreamers; and

15 WHEREAS, These young people have strong roots in Washington state
16 and the United States of America, as they arrive here as children and
17 have grown up knowing this as their only home; and

18 WHEREAS, To qualify for DACA, these dreamers must have a high
19 school diploma, be in school, or have honorably discharged veteran
20 status, and must not pose a threat to national security or public
21 safety, meaning each one of these eighteen thousand people are
22 contributing to the only community they know; and

1 WHEREAS, The president's threat to rescind the DACA program is
2 already causing harm and uncertainty to all of the Washington state
3 residents covered by that program; and

4 WHEREAS, College students are worried they will not be able to
5 graduate, while recent graduates and others starting their careers
6 and families do not know what the future will hold; and

7 WHEREAS, It would be damaging to families, children, marriages,
8 communities, and the state of Washington as a whole to end this
9 program and deport eighteen thousand good young people who just want
10 a chance to work hard and raise their own kids here as part of the
11 American dream; and

12 WHEREAS, Most of these dreamers do not even remember the country
13 where they were born or speak that language, compounding the damage
14 done to them when this decision takes effect;

15 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully encourage the
16 United States congress to codify DACA and freeze deportations of
17 dreamers during this process, as these specific actions will give
18 those who have grown up in our country some stability while congress
19 carefully considers long-term legislative solutions to overhaul our
20 nation's broken immigration system.

21 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
22 transmitted to the Honorable Donald J. Trump, President of the United
23 States, the President of the United States Senate, the Secretary of
24 the United States Department of State, the Speaker of the House of
25 Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of
26 Washington.

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