



December 6, 2017

Representative Paul Ryan
Speaker of the House
United States House of Representatives
Room H-232, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader
United States House of Representatives
Room H-204, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Senator Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Charles E. Schumer
Minority Leader
United States Senate
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Support for a clean Dream Act

Dear Mr. Speaker Ryan, Minority Leader Pelosi, Majority Leader McConnell, and Minority Leader Schumer:

The Texas Latino Education Coalition (TLEC)¹ is a collaborative of organizations and individuals who advocate the rights of Latinos at the local, state and national levels. The coalition represents thousands of Texans across the state that are organized to focus on critical educational issues that impact the state of education for Latino students in public schools. The passage of a clean Dream Act is one of these critical issues.

On behalf of the undersigned organizations, we urge you to take action that will create a lasting and meaningful change to protect DREAMers, young immigrants of all races and ethnicities brought to our country as children. Since the current administration's latest action on September 5, 2017 that has already begun effectively terminating the Deferred Action for Childhood

¹ TLEC consists of the following member organizations: Cesar E. Chavez Legacy and Educational Foundation, Dr. Hector P. Garcia G.I. Forum, Intercultural Development Research Association (IDRA), La Fe Policy Research and Education Center, Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF), Mexican American School Board Members Association (MASBA), National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies (NACCS), Tejas Foco, UnidosUS (formerly known as NCLR), San Antonio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Texas Association for Bilingual Education (TABE), Texas Association for Chicanos in Higher Education (TACHE), Texas Association of Mexican American Chambers of Commerce (TAMACC), Texas Center for Education Policy, University of Texas – Austin, Texas Hispanics Organized for Political Education (HOPE), Texas League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), Texas NAACP, and The McNeil Foundation.

Arrivals (DACA) policy, these young people have felt the daily anxiety of living in a constant state of uncertainty while trying to attend school, work, care for their families and contribute to their communities. Until the larger task of immigration reform is addressed, we implore you to do the work that your constituents are counting on you to do in passing a clean Dream Act. This act should not tie the lives of these young people to the whims of current legislators, but it should value each life and the love for this country that DREAMers share.

It is clear that there is widespread support among your constituents and across the country for the need to protect DREAMers. Texas is stronger because of the incredible contributions that over 120,000 DREAMers provide to our economy, schools, colleges, universities, neighborhoods and communities. They are more than just DREAMers. They are our family, friends, neighbors, colleagues, customers, employees, students and our hope for a better America. As our congressional leaders we are counting on you to do what is right through the passage of a clean Dream Act with the urgency that it requires. You can count on the Texas Latino Education Coalition to assist you in this effort.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Texas Latino Education Coalition (TLEC)