

THE UNITED STATES LAW STUDENTS' PETITION FOR DACA'S EFFECTIVE REPLACEMENT

February 16, 2018

We, the undersigned law students of the United States of America, stand unequivocally united in support of youth protected by Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA). As future stewards of the law hailing from every corner of our nation, we demand that Congress act immediately to create a **fair and efficient pathway to citizenship** for Dreamers.

On September 5, 2017, President Donald Trump eliminated the protections of DACA, imposing a deadline of six months for Congress to produce a solution for Dreamers—nearly 800,000 Americans formerly protected from deportation.

Most Dreamers came to the United States as toddlers. But after March 5, 2018, these youth will lose the only community, identity, and home that they have ever known. This tragedy will cause America to lose a vital asset: an educated class of promising students who have demonstrated a commitment to hard work and a strong desire to contribute to American society. These young people are *ours*, and they deserve a path to citizenship because they are citizens in every respect but name.

**We demand a fair and efficient pathway to citizenship for Dreamers,
granting immediate and long-term relief and protection from deportation.**

Their citizenship runs deep in their hearts and manifests in their actions. Dreamers are the co-workers with whom we collaborate, the classmates with whom we study, and the neighbors with whom we enjoy and maintain our communities. Dreamers are the friends we depend on when times get tough, and the family we sit with at the dinner table. They are as much a part of our national fabric as we are. And we demand that our elected representatives step up to protect them.

We are a nation that can and must stand together to prevent these youth from a sure and devastating harm. To that end, we expect to see your active participation in enacting legislation that permanently protects them from further harm. As people in solidarity with our undocumented brothers and sisters, we promise to hold you accountable and will assist you in realizing this goal.

The time is now. Enact a pathway to citizenship.

Respectfully,

Petitioners Organizing for DACA's Effective Replacement (PODER)
Law Students of the United States of America, undersigned