CONGRESS MUST ACT TO PROTECT DREAMERS

WE NEED A PERMANENT BIPARTISAN SOLUTION NOW

Dear Leader Schumer and Leader McConnell:

The Coalition for the American Dream is an organization of business leaders representing every major sector of the U.S. economy and more than half of American private sector workers.

Our more than 100 top companies and trade associations also proudly employ thousands of Dreamers who were brought to this country as children and raised as Americans. As you know, Senators Dick Durbin (D-IL) and Lindsey Graham (R-SC) recently reintroduced the bipartisan *Dream Act of 2021 (5.264)* which would provide a permanent legislative solution for these young people and end the limbo they have been in for years. If passed, this bill would give them the long-overdue opportunity to apply for lawful permanent resident status and eventually citizenship if they continue to meet certain requirements.

This important legislation has our strong support and we ask that you and your colleagues consider and pass it in the immediate weeks ahead. Poll after poll has shown that overwhelming majorities of Americans in both political parties support Dreamers. They are critical members of our workforce, industries, and communities, and they have abided by the laws and regulations of our country in order to qualify under the conditions set forth in the Dream Act. They are vital to our nation's strength, especially now when tens of thousands of them are currently working as essential front-line personnel fighting COVID-19.

Studies by economists across the ideological spectrum also have determined that if Congress fails to act, our economy could lose \$350 billion in GDP, and the federal government could lose \$90 billion in tax revenue. Continued delay or inaction will cause significant negative economic and social impact on businesses and hundreds of thousands of deserving young people across the country.

Thank you, in advance, for your consideration, and we hope you will work together to move this important bipartisan legislation.

Respectfully, The Coalition for the American Dream

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