



THE UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF MAYORS

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August 3, 2021

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
Majority Leader
United States Senate

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Republican Leader
United States Senate

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
United States House of Representatives

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Republican Leader
United States House of Representatives

Dear Leader Schumer, Speaker Pelosi, Leader McConnell, and Leader McCarthy:

Given the July 16 Texas U.S. District Court decision holding that the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program is unlawful, it is even more urgent than ever that Congress act quickly to provide permanent protection from deportation and a path to citizenship for all Dreamers – people who have lived in America since they were children and built their lives here. As Democrats, Republicans, and Independents, we write on behalf of all the nation’s mayors to urge you to take whatever action is necessary and possible immediately to accomplish this. We pledge to work with you in this effort to help you make this happen.

The United States Conference of Mayors has had strong policy supporting a pathway to citizenship for Dreamers and extension of the DACA program for many years. Our bipartisan organization has adopted this policy because it is the right thing to do – for Dreamers, for our communities, and for our country.

The cultural, economic, and social contributions of the more than 800,000 DACA recipients and their families to our cities cannot be overstated; particularly during a global pandemic where over 200,000 DACA recipients are working in essential roles, including 27,000 in health care positions. Each year, DACA recipients and their households pay \$5.6 billion in federal taxes and \$3.1 billion in state and local taxes on top of their payroll tax contributions to Social Security and Medicare. After taxes, DACA recipients and their households have a combined \$24 billion in spending power to put back into their communities.

The time for Congress to act is now and America’s mayors stand ready to work with you to provide a path to citizenship for all Dreamers.

Sincerely,

Nan Whaley
Mayor of Dayton, OH
President

Hillary Schieve
Mayor of Reno
Second Vice President

Tom Cochran
CEO and Executive Director

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Mayor of Louisville, KY
Past President

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Past President

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Mayor of Burnsville, MN
Past President

Eric Garcetti
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Chair, USCM Latino Alliance

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Mayor of Mesa, AZ
Co-Chair, Immigration Reform
Task Force

Jorge Elorza
Mayor of Providence, RI
Co-Chair, Immigration Reform
Task Force

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Lioneld Jordan
Mayor of Fayetteville, AR

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Mayor of Berkeley, CA

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Mayor of Lompoc, CA

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Mayor of San Jose, CA

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Mayor of Kenosha, WI

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Mayor of Madison, WI

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Mayor of Milwaukee, WI

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Mayor of Wausau, WI

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Mayor of Huntington, WV