



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

June 20, 2018

Dear Speaker Ryan:

We write to express appreciation for the efforts being made in the House to provide a legislative solution for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) in the Border Security and Immigration Reform Act of 2018 and lift the cloud of uncertainty that Dreamers have been forced to live under since the September 2017 rescission of the DACA policy.

We believe this represents an opportunity to move the legislative process forward. It is imperative to protect Dreamers and provide a clear pathway to citizenship.

There are other critically important issues that are a part of this debate, including the urgent and heartbreaking issue of migrant children being separated from their parents when families are arrested at the border. As you act to prohibit that practice, we also urge you to decisively address DACA and provide immediate and long-term legal status for 1.8 million Dreamers.

For over a decade, we have advocated for a long-term legislative fix for the outstanding young individuals known as Dreamers. Last year, more than 800 college and university presidents urged lawmakers to take action to protect DACA registrants, as did nearly 80 higher education associations.

There is widespread bipartisan support for protecting these high-achieving and talented young people, and we urge you to forge a bipartisan solution to do so. We are grateful for the continuing efforts of the members of Congress who have engaged in meaningful actions to move legislation forward that protects Dreamers, but we are not there yet. We call on Congress to act immediately and effectively to address these urgent issues.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ted Mitchell". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

Ted Mitchell
President
On behalf of:

American Association of Community Colleges
American Association of State Colleges and Universities
American Council on Education
Association of American Universities
Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities
Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges
Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities
Council for Christian Colleges and Universities
National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities