

Advocacy committee

Zaira J Vidal Cortes UC Riverside GSA zvida002@ucr.edu

March 18th, 2023

DACA

Overview

The current instability in the migration system in the United States relies heavily on mass deportations, social injustice and lack of professional and educational opportunities for those individuals that still have not established a fixed status in the country. It is necessary to change the current immigration legislations to make it more inclusive and fair in order to provide opportunities for all people. This issue affects UCR graduates and all undergraduate students that have arrived to the United States as children because they have faced several financial, educational, psychological and social inequalities in higher education due to the instability of their immigration status. Furthermore, several of these students are the head of household in their families and hold positions of leadership in their communities. These students have been deprived of opportunities that could enrich their education and knowledge in their respective fields, research and personal lives.

Legislation

S.365 - Dream Act of 2023. Introduced by Dem. Senator Richard J Durbin.

[This bill would require to authorize the cancellation of removal and adjustment of status of certain individuals who are long-term United States residents and who entered the United States as children, and other purposes. The bill would automatically grant conditional permanent resident status to DACA recipients who still meet the requirements needed to obtain DACA. This bill would prohibit the Secretary to not disclose or use information provided in applications filed under this Act or in requests for DACA for the purpose of immigration enforcement. This bill would allow young undocumented immigrants to continue to contribute to their communities and the economy by working legally, paying their fair share of taxes and building businesses that hire American workers. It also would provide a permanent solution for hundreds of thousands of lawful members of the workforce who otherwise risk losing authorization to work. This bill prevents Dreamers from deportation to a country where they did not grow up and do not remember. This bill would allow them to reach their full potential and have the opportunity to become american in the eyes of the law, contributing to a brighter future for their communities.]

S. 505- Immigration Parole Reform Act of 2023. Introduced by Rep. Senator Grassley Chuck.

[This bill would demand the Secretaty of Homeland Security, in the discretion of the Secretary, temporarily parole into the United States any applicant for admission to the United States who is not present in the United Sates, under such conditions as the Secretary may prescribe, on case-by-case basis, and not according to eligibility criteria describing an entire class of potential parole recipients, for urgent humanitarian reasons or significant public benefit. This bill would grant the petitioner a period of sufficient length to accomplish the activity described in the determinations of such conditions. This bill would allow graduate students with DACA to be able to travel out of the country in order to conduct research studies, conferences and work related to their research interests.]

H. R. 2066- Protect DREAMer Confidentiality Act of 2021. Introduced by Dem. Rep Torres Norma.

[This bill would provide for the confidentiality of information submitted in requests for deferred actions under the deferred action for childhood arrivals program, and for other purposes. This bill would demand protection for individual application information from disclosure to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement or U.S. Customs and Border Protection for any purpose other than the implantation of the DACA program. This bill would provide confidentiality and tranqulity to applicants during legal proceedings need during DACA and other immigration processes.]

Solution: S.365 & S.505 are necessary to advance a more humane and fair migration legislation that would allow approximately 1.9 million eligible Dreamers brought to America as children, including current 600,000 DACA recipients, to receive permanent protections to live and work in the U.S. These legislations would decrease the unequal treatment and opportunities experienced by graduate students in the UC systems and many othe higher education institutions. These policies would also help and mantain the contribution to their communities, education and United States economy by working legally, paying their fair share of taxes and building businesses that hire American workers. This would also provide a permanent solution and job safety for hundreds of thousands of lawful members of the workforce.

Related Issues:

- Push for an immigration reform that would allow citizens without fixed status in the United States to ensure that everyone has the freedom to thrive and be part of the American society.
- Support H. R. 4717- "Global Migration Agreement Act" that promote in bilateral relationships and multilateral organizations the adoption of a binding Global Migration Agreement. Among other purposes, such agreement should (1) address the root causes of migration; (2) centralize the human rights of migrants, recognizing the particular vulnerabilities of marginalized groups; and (3) provide global funding for crisis response involving both internal and cross-border migrants at risk.