



# THE UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF MAYORS

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TOM COCHRAN

July 14, 2017

The President  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

I write on behalf of all the nation's mayors to thank you for your support of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA). Just last month at the 85<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of The United States Conference of Mayors, we adopted strong policy supporting extension of the DACA program and permanent legal status for DREAMERS. In light of the June 29 threat by the Texas Attorney General to challenge the DACA program, we want to make sure your Administration does all it can to continue this program, which is important not just to DACA recipients and their families, but also to our cities and our nation.

As you know, DACA provides employment authorization and protection from deportation to undocumented immigrants who entered the United States before they turned 16 and has benefitted nearly 800,000 undocumented youth since it began in 2012. With work authorization and without the fear of deportation, these young people have been able to participate in and contribute to our country, our cities and the nation's economy:

- Eighty-seven percent of DACA recipients are employed by American businesses, and six percent have started their own businesses, leading to higher wages and better economic outcomes.
- DACA recipients contribute 15.3 percent of their wages to taxes, which fund Social Security and Medicare, and DACA recipients are investing in assets like houses, and starting new businesses, bringing significant tax revenue to cities and states.
- It is expected that DACA recipients will contribute \$9.9 billion in tax contributions over the next four years, and at least \$433.4 billion to our gross domestic product (GDP) over the next decade.

The nation's mayors encourage you and your Administration to demonstrate your commitment to the American economy and the ideals of our nation by continuing DACA until Congress modernizes our immigration system and provides a more permanent form of relief for these individuals.

Sincerely,

Mitchell J. Landrieu  
Mayor of New Orleans  
President