



**ASSOCIATED STUDENTS, INC.**  
California State University, Los Angeles

A Resolution in Support of the Dream Act of 2017 (S. 1615/H.R. 3440 115<sup>th</sup> Congress)

Authored by: Marcos Montes, VP for External Affairs and Advancement

Respectfully submitted to the Board of Directors of California State University, Los Angeles Associated Students, Incorporated  
Resolution Number 201702                      Submission Date: 09/21/2017                      Approval Date: 09/21/2017

**Whereas**, On June 15, 2012 President Obama announced an executive action, known as Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), that changed immigration policy to allow qualified young adults to remain in the country without the fear of deportation and grant temporary work permits<sup>1</sup>; and

**Whereas**, according to a 2014 Pew Research estimate about 1.1 million young adults are eligible for DACA<sup>2</sup>, according to 2017 National DACA Study, DACA has increased recipients' hourly wages by an average of 69% giving them additional purchasing power which boosts economic growth<sup>3</sup>, according to the same study 65% of respondents reported purchasing their first car, 16% of respondents purchased their first home<sup>4</sup>, and research shows that DACA beneficiaries will contribute \$460.3 billion to the U.S. GDP over the next decade<sup>5</sup>; and

**Whereas**, on September 5, 2017 the Trump administration announced that it will rescind the program and phase it out over the next 2.5 years<sup>6</sup>; and

**Whereas**, the first version of the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors Act was introduced in 2001 by Senators Durbin and Hatch<sup>7</sup>; and

**Whereas**, multiple bipartisan attempts have been made but the DREAM Act has never gathered enough votes to become law; and

**Whereas**, the closest the Dream Act has been to pass was in 2010, when the House of Representatives approved the bill but it died in the Senate by 5 votes<sup>8</sup>; and

**Whereas**, the looming threat to DACA by the Trump administration encouraged Senators Lindsay Graham (R-SC) and Richard Durbin (D-IL) and Representatives Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-CA) and Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL) to introduce the Dream Act of 2017 in both houses of Congress; and

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.nytimes.com/2012/06/16/us/us-to-stop-deporting-some-illegal-immigrants.html?mcubz=3>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2017/01/05/authorized-immigrants-covered-by-daca-face-uncertain-future/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/immigration/news/2017/08/28/437956/daca-recipients-economic-educational-gains-continue-grow/>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/immigration/news/2017/08/28/437956/daca-recipients-economic-educational-gains-continue-grow/>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/immigration/news/2017/07/21/436419/new-threat-daca-cost-states-billions-dollars/>

<sup>6</sup> <http://www.npr.org/2017/09/05/546423550/trump-signals-end-to-daca-calls-on-congress-to-act>

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.congress.gov/bill/107th-congress/senate-bill/1291>

<sup>8</sup> <http://www.politico.com/story/2010/12/dream-act-dies-in-senate-046573>



**Whereas**, the Senate version of the Dream Act, introduced in July 2017, allows current, former, and future undocumented high-school graduates and GED recipients a three-step pathway to U.S. citizenship through college, work, or the armed services<sup>9</sup>; and

**Whereas**, the Dream Act of 2017 would grant recipients an initial conditional permanent resident (CPR) status for eight years, to be eligible, applicants would have to:

1. be undocumented, a DACA recipient, or a TPS beneficiary (people with final removal orders, voluntary departure orders, or who are in removal proceedings would be eligible);
2. have entered the U.S. before the age of 18;
3. have been continuously physically present in the U.S. since at least four years before the date of the Dream Act's enactment;
4. have maintained continuous presence in the U.S. until the date they apply;
5. meet the education requirement through one of these ways:
  - a. they've been admitted to a college, university, or other institution of higher learning, or
  - b. they've earned a high school diploma or general education development (GED) certificate, or
  - c. they are currently enrolled in a secondary education program to assist in obtaining a high school diploma or GED certificate;
6. have not been convicted of certain criminal offenses;
7. pass a medical exam;
8. pass a background check<sup>10</sup>; and

**Whereas**, anyone who maintains CPR status can obtain lawful permanent residence (LPR) by satisfying the following requirements<sup>11</sup>:

1. not have certain criminal convictions on their record;
2. not have abandoned their residence in the U.S.;
3. have done one of the following:
  - a. acquired a degree from an institution of higher education, or
  - b. completed at least 2 years in a bachelor's degree program, or
  - c. served for at least 2 years in the uniformed services, or
  - d. been employed for periods totaling at least 3 years, at least 75 percent of which time was working with valid employment authorization. (If the person was not working, they must show that they were enrolled in school or an education program.)
  - e. A hardship exception may be available for people who do not meet at least one of the four requirements listed immediately above;



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4. demonstrate the ability to read, write and speak English and show a knowledge and understanding of U.S. civics;
5. pass a background check; and

**Whereas**, the 2017 Dream Act would improve college affordability for undocumented students by repealing section 505 of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (IIRIRA), which currently discourages states from making undocumented students eligible for in-state tuition or providing them other higher education benefits; and

**Whereas**, the Dream Act of 2017 will provide a 13-year pathway to citizenship for Dreamers; let it be

**Resolved**, that Associated Students, Inc. at Cal State LA supports the Dream Act of 2017 and requests for Congress to act and pass a clean version of the Dream Act; and further

**Resolved**, that A.S.I. of Cal State LA will craft an advocacy campaign around the Dream Act and will provide support to undocumented students at Cal State LA; and further

**Resolved**, we recognize that these individuals are more than an immigration status, economic impact, or a nine-digit number, we fully recognize that we are talking about human lives and want our undocumented community to know that Associated Students, Incorporated is here to support and serve them; and

**Resolved**, that ASI will work tenaciously to create a campus environment where undocumented students will not be confined to the shadows, instead, we will ensure Cal State LA is a safe space where everyone feels welcome, understood, and included; let it be finally

**Resolved**, that copies of this resolution will be shared with Cal State LA student body, the Dreamers Resource Center at Cal State LA, Cal State LA University Times, Cal State LA University President William A. Covino, Cal State LA Academic Senate, the CSU Board of Trustees, Academic Senate of the California State University, and the Cal State Student Association.

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California State University, Los Angeles

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David Zitser  
President  
Associated Students, Incorporated

9/25/2017

Date

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Jazmin Ortiz  
Secretary/Treasurer  
Associated Students, Incorporated

9/25/2017

Date