

# Issue Brief

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## Pass the Dream Act of 2017

### **Request**

Act immediately to pass the Dream Act of 2017 (S.1615; H.R. 3440), without amendments, to provide lasting relief from the fear of deportation and a path to citizenship for young people who were brought to the United States without documentation as children.

### **Issue**

The [Dream Act](#) is a bipartisan bill that would protect from deportation young people who were brought to the United States as children and grew up here but do not have legal status to remain in the United States. It would provide individuals who entered the United States before age 18 an opportunity to apply for conditional residence if they meet stringent requirements, including passing background checks. After establishing a history of attending an institution of higher education, serving in the military, or working, conditional residence could be converted to permanent legal residence, and eventually to citizenship.

If the bill is not passed, the nearly 800,000 young people who came forward in good faith to register for DACA, and many others, risk deportation, as well as an end to their studies, their employment, and their ability to contribute to the United States.

Because DACA is scheduled to end on March 5, 2018, passage of the Dream Act is urgent and should be a priority for Congress. Passing Dream should not be linked to funding or building a border wall or other controversial measures. The future of these young people should not be used as a bargaining chip in the bigger immigration reform debate.

Dreamers should not be sent back in the shadows to live in fear of being separated from their families and removed from the only country they call home. These are young people who have done everything asked of them and are integral to our country, communities, and economy.

### **Solution**

Pass the Dream Act of 2017 to ensure a lasting solution for those with DACA and to protect Dreamers. The Dream Act is the best way to ensure that DACA recipients will be able to continue to help America grow and prosper.

### **Contact**

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### **More Information**

NAFSA immigration priorities and resources: [nafsa.org/immigration](http://nafsa.org/immigration)