

Say What?



ADVOCACYDAY

International Students & Scholars

In 2017, we saw a 6.6% DECLINE IN NEW INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ENROLLMENT, which is double the decrease from the previous year. This is the biggest drop in enrollment since 9/11.

Despite making up only 5.5% OF U.S. HIGHER ED ENROLLMENT, international students, scholars, and their families bring significant ACADEMIC, CULTURAL, and ECONOMIC benefits to the U.S.

International students contributed \$39 BILLION and created MORE THAN 455,000 JOBS during the last academic year.

ADVANCED/ADDITIONAL TALKING POINTS

My state/district has seen a _____ DROP in int'l student enrollment.

(Find this number in the special messaging section for each of your congressional appointments. Please note that not all states and districts experienced a decrease, so this section may be blank for some or all of your meetings.)

The United States is in a GLOBAL COMPETITION for TALENT.

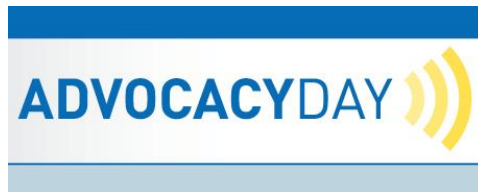
Nearly ONE-QUARTER of the FOUNDERS OF THE \$1 BILLION U.S. STARTUP COMPANIES first came to the U.S. as international students.

For America to REMAIN THE LEADER IN SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERY, we must attract the best and brightest from around the world.

Other countries, like CHINA and CANADA, have PROACTIVE IMMIGRATION POLICIES and MARKETING STRATEGIES to attract international students and scholars. While we face a decline, these countries are experiencing DOUBLE-DIGIT GROWTH in international students.

WELCOMING international students and scholars should continue to be part of the long-term U.S. IMMIGRATION AND FOREIGN POLICY strategy.

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Senator Paul Simon Study Abroad Program Act

Did you know that LESS THAN 2% of college students study abroad each year?

Study abroad provides students with the GLOBAL SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE, and EXPERIENCES necessary to COMPETE IN TODAY'S WORKFORCE.

The SIMON BILL has FOUR KEY GOALS:

1. BOOSTING STUDY ABROAD PARTICIPATION,
2. EXPANDING DIVERSITY OF PARTICIPANTS,
3. INCREASING STUDY IN NON-TRADITIONAL LOCATIONS, and
4. ENSURING GREATER COMMITMENT BY INSTITUTIONS TO EXPAND STUDY ABROAD OPPORTUNITIES.

ADDITIONAL/ADVANCED TALKING POINTS:

Students who study abroad are MORE LIKELY to HAVE A HIGHER GPA and COMPLETE THEIR DEGREE than students who don't study abroad.

The SIMON BILL will authorize NEW INSTITUTIONAL GRANTS to INCENTIVIZE higher education institutions to BREAK DOWN BARRIERS to study abroad and ensure more students can study abroad.

INSTITUTIONAL GRANTS are more EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT than individual scholarships and provide a platform for SUSTAINABLE, LONG-TERM CHANGE nationwide.

Institutional grants offer opportunities for colleges and universities to create PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS to LEVERAGE ADDITIONAL FUNDS from local businesses for study abroad.

International exchanges and study abroad have often been cited as one of our STRONGEST AND MOST EFFECTIVE PUBLIC DIPLOMACY TOOLS.