

Issue Brief



BRIDGE Act (S.128, H.R. 496)

Request

We urge members of Congress to cosponsor and champion *the bipartisan Bar Removal of Individuals Who Dream of Growing Our Economy (BRIDGE) Act (S.128, H.R. 496)*. This important legislation provides temporary relief from deportation and work authorization to young immigrants who were brought to the United States without status as children.

Issue

Young people who came out of the shadows by registering with the U.S. government to receive Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) relief should not be sent back into 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 contributing to our economy and communities.

The BRIDGE Act is a bipartisan effort to ensure these young people are protected from deportation to give Congress time to work out a permanent fix for the broken immigration system. The BRIDGE Act's limited relief from deportation would only apply to those individuals who were brought to the United States as minors, grew up and were educated here, have undergone a criminal background check, and have paid a fee in order to be able to continue to live and work in the United States for three years. Ultimately, a more comprehensive approach is needed, but this temporary measure would provide vital relief to a group of young people who are feeling particularly vulnerable in light of the administration's recent interior enforcement memoranda, which failed to clarify that individuals with DACA status are exempt from deportation.

Solution

Pass the BRIDGE Act (S.128, H.R. 496) to provide temporary relief from deportation and work authorization to young immigrants who were brought to the United States without status as children.

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More Information

NAFSA immigration priorities and resources: nafsa.org/immigration