

NAFSA

Presentation

Office of Senator Lugar

Indiana University

June 21, 2010

The DREAM ACT

**Development, Relief
and Education for
Alien Minors Act**

Who Qualifies?

- Qualifications include:
 - Must have entered the US prior to turning 16 years of age and been physically present in the US for a continuous period of no less than five years immediately proceeding the date of enactment
 - Be a person of good moral character
 - Graduated from high school, earned a GED, or admitted to institution of higher education

Who Qualifies?

- Be under the age of 35
- May not be inadmissible or deportable except for specifically enumerated exceptions

Process

- 2002 Senator Lugar decided to co-sponsor
- Introduced in the Senate by Senators Lugar, Durbin, and Hagel on October 2007.
- October 24, 2007 voted cloture on the motion to proceed
- Did not pass by vote of 52 in favor and 44 against

Why pass the DREAM Act?

- Approximately 50,000 – 70,000 undocumented immigrants graduate from high school who have lived in the United States for at least 5 years.
- In 2003 it was estimated that 7,000 to 13,000 unauthorized immigrants enrolled in public colleges and universities in the United States for at least 5 years and graduated from U.S. high schools.

National Estimates Current Beneficiary

- 360,000 unauthorized high school graduates between the ages of 18 to 24 would be eligible to adjust status under the DREAM ACT.
- Out of the 360,000 that would be eligible, currently only a small percentage attend an institution of higher education

National Estimate of Total Beneficiaries

- According to the Center for Immigration Studies, nationally there are 2.1 million potential DREAM Act beneficiaries from the ages of **5 to 29** years old..
- This represents the entire number of persons who would benefit from preschool to college age who could potentially benefit from this law if passed

Cosponsors

- Introduced again on March 26, 2009 by Senator Lugar and Senator Durbin
- Cosponsor now included 40 Senators
 - Sen. Evan Bayh [IN]
 - Sen. Bingaman [NM]
 - Sen. Dodd [CT]
 - Sen. Feinstein [CA]
 - Sen. Harkin [IA]
 - Sen. Kerry [MA]
 - Sen. Lieberman [CT]
 - Sen. Gillibrand [NY]
 - Sen. Nelson [FL]
 - Sen. Whitehouse [RI]
 - Sen. Murray [WA]
 - Sen. Reid [NV]
 - Sen. Udall [CO]
 - Sen. Boxer [CA]
 - Sen. Feingold [WI]
 - Sen. Cantwell [WA]
 - Sen. Menendez [NJ]
 - Sen. Schumer [NY]

Companion Bill

- In House of Representatives H.R. 1751; The American DREAM Act
- Has not been introduced in a committee

Call or Write your Senator or Congressman

1. **Identify yourself:** This allows the member of Congress to respond.
2. **Identify the legislation:** This way there is no confusion about what bill you are speaking of; bill numbers are helpful.
3. **State your Opinion:** Tell the member of Congress your thoughts on the legislation.
4. **Course of Action:** Let the Senator and/or Congressman know how you would like for them to vote on a particular piece of legislation.
5. **Experience:** Include any information regarding expertise you may have in the area pertaining to the legislation.
6. **Be Brief:** Senators and Congressmen receive thousands of calls and/or letters a week. Try to be specific, but as brief as possible.

Comprehensive Immigration Reform

- 2 Main Points

- 1) No bill has been introduced into the Senate (ask Andrew)

- 2) Senator Lugar has supported comprehensive reforms at every opportunity

- 3) Senator Lugar will continue to support

Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs (ECA)

Exchange Programs

Updates

- Department of State has implemented new regulations due to the abuses last year in Scranton, PA including:
 - FBI Background checks of host families and anyone over 18 in the house
 - Background checks would be done by fingerprinting
 - About \$75 per person if done by paper at a local police station
 - \$400 per person if by electronic where 3rd party would come to your home
 - Private agencies may object, but would likely only pass cost on to the overseas student's families

Updates

- Other **proposed** changes:
 - Single parents cannot host students
 - Families with kids who have permanently moved out cannot host students
 - These proposed changes are currently being discussed with State/DHS

Open Doors Program

- Annual survey of location of exchange students in the U.S. sponsored by ECA
- During the 2008-09 academic year 17,098 international students studied in the state of Indiana
 - Representing a 10% increase over 2007-08

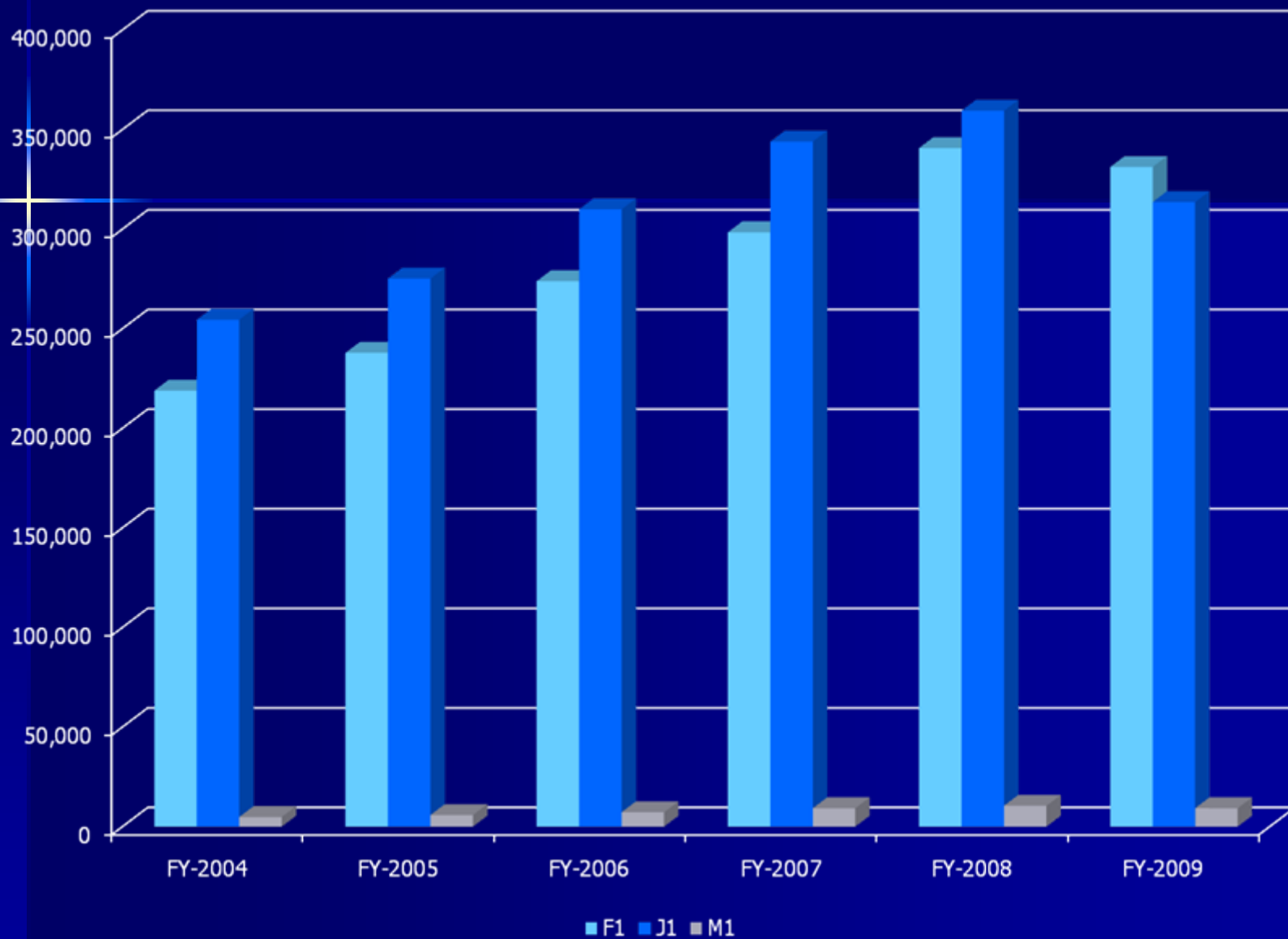
Student Visa Applications

Department of State

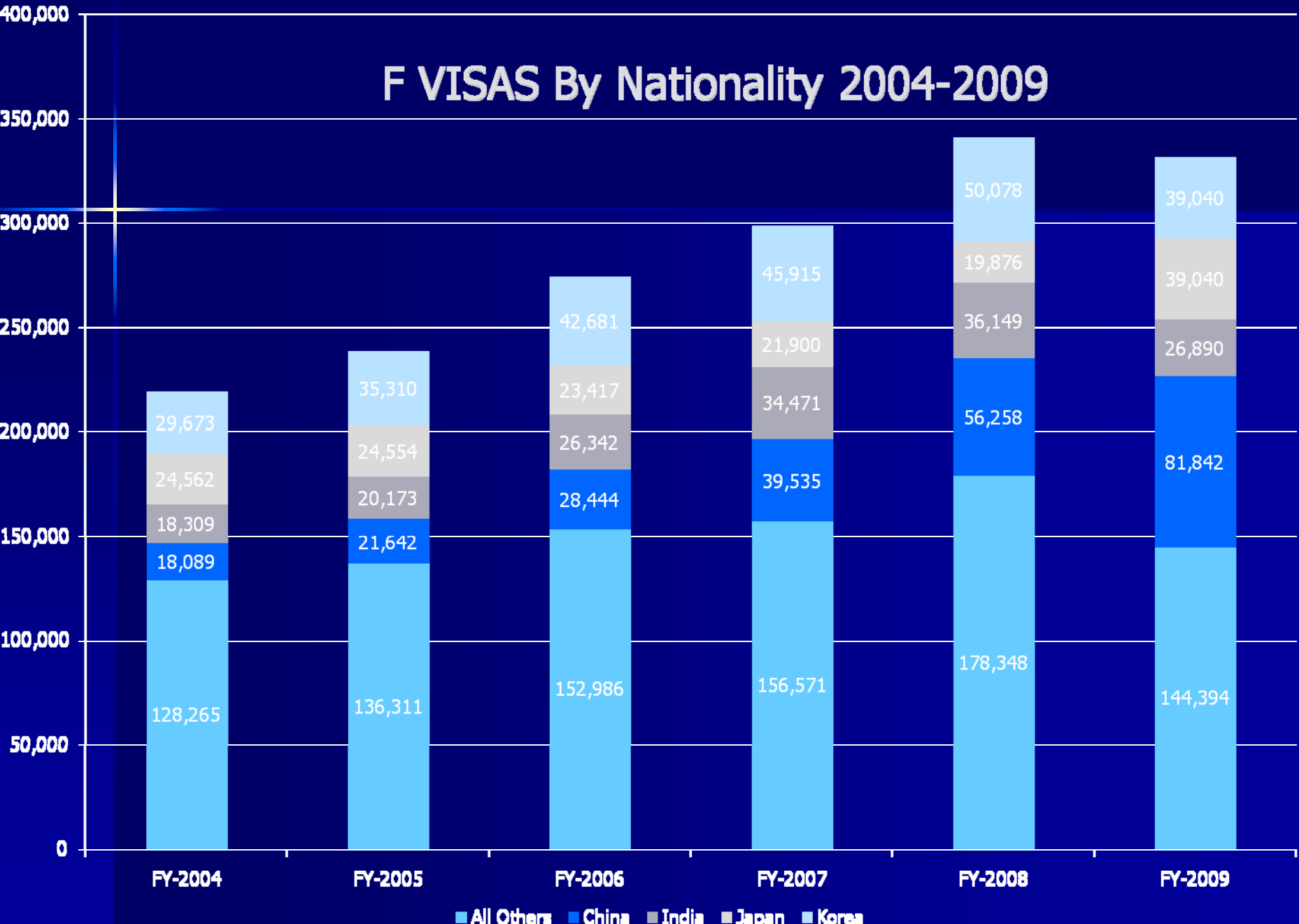
National Statistics for FY2009

- F-1 : 331,206
(down from 340,709 in 2008; up from 218,898 in 2004)
- J-1 : 359,447
(down from 359,447 in 2008; up from 254,504 in 2004)
- M-1 : 10,475
(down from 10,475 in 2008; up from 4,817 in 2004)

F, J and M Visa Issuance 2004-2009



F VISAS By Nationality 2004-2009



Problems or Questions Concerning Student Visa Applications

- STUDENT/EXCHANGE VISITOR VISA CENTER
 - (for F, M, J questions):
 - email: fmjvisas@state.gov
- PUBLIC INQUIRIES DIVISION: 202-663-1225

Changes in Visa Processing

- DS-160 (combines the DS-156, DS-157, DS-158 with photo and e-signature)
 - Mandatory at all posts as of May 31, 2010
- New MRV fees in effect as of June 4, 2010
 - \$140 for F, M, J visa applications, as well as others

Student Visa Processing

- Student visa appointments are given priority.
- Student visa cases that require additional administrative processing are handled more expeditiously than most other visa categories.

Student Visas for Participation Untraditional Academic Programs

- Attendance to a lesser-known college, an English language program, or a community college is not in itself a reason for refusing a student visa applicant
 - Student must overcome INA 214(b) and establish that he/she has a realistic plan for his/her education and return to their country
- The school a student chose is not nearly as important as why he/she chose it

Student Visa Tips

- Applicants should apply as early as possible.
- Make sure you have all the required documents needed for your visa interview.
- Check the website of the Embassy or Consulate where you are applying for post-specific information.

Summer Work and Travel Program (SWT) Participant Timely Return

- Program must end before the next school term begins
- SWT applicants are not required to have a job placement at time of visa applications
 - More difficulty establishing their ability to support themselves during the program
- Additional information about types of employment permitted on SWT can be found on ECA site at www.exchanges.state.gov/jexchanges/programs/swt.html

Study Incidental to Visit vs. Principal Purpose of Admission

- Some U.S. institutions offer courses for foreign students that strain the definition of “study incidental to visit”, particularly in case of summer programs
- If a student plans to spend a week or more of full-time study (more than 18 hours per week) for academic credit or completion of an academic program of study in the U.S., an F-1 or M-1 visa is appropriate
 - Annotate these visas, “STUDY INCIDENTAL TO VISIT – Form I-20 NOT REQUIRED”

Services We Provide

Senator Lugar's Office

Assistance with the Federal Government

- Serving Hoosiers is important to Senator Lugar and his Indianapolis office has a staff of Constituent Services Specialists who possess unique expertise regarding government agencies and programs.

Ready to assist

- We stand ready to help you:
 - Facilitate communication with federal, state and local agencies
 - Identify appropriate resources for assistance
 - Ensure due process of claims with federal agencies
 - Clarify federal regulations and procedures
 - Obtain general information

Indiana Offices

Senator Lugar maintains offices throughout the state to serve Hoosiers. Please contact your local office any time for assistance.

- Evansville - (812) 465-6313
- Fort Wayne - (260) 422-1505
- Indianapolis - (317) 226-5555
- Valparaiso - (219) 548-8035



What Issues that we help with:

Social Security

- Retirement benefits
- Disability applications
- Medicare

Federal Jobs

- Workers compensation
- Health care and life insurance benefits
- Retirement benefits
- Job referral services

Justice

- Civil rights
- Federal prisons
- Immigration & naturalization

Other Issues

- Postal service
- Patents and trademarks

What Issues that we help with:

Agriculture

- Transition payments
- Marketing loans
- Crop insurance
- Ownership/operating loans Housing
- Subsidized housing
- Guaranteed loans

Education

- Student loans, grants & scholarships
- Vocational rehabilitation
- Job training programs

Public Assistance

- Temporary Assistance to Needy Families Medicaid
- Food Stamps
- Energy and weatherization assistance
- Women, Infants and Children Program
- Child support

What Issues that we help with:

Military and Veterans Issues

- Enlistments & discharges
- VA benefits
- Awards and medals

State Department

- Tourist visas
- Passports
- Travel advisories
- Assistance abroad

Treasury

- Customs
- IRS issues and taxes
- Banking
- Bonds

Labor

- Pensions and benefits
- Labor relations
- Unemployment insurance
- Workers compensation

Opportunities for Students

Senator Lugar's Office

Richard G. Lugar's Fund for Hoosier Excellence

- Amount: \$4,000-\$20,000
 - Two \$20,000 Scholarships (one for a male and one for a female)
 - Eight \$4,000 Scholarships
- Awarded to African American, Hispanic, or Native American Student
 - Combined SAT Score of 1000
 - Minimum 3.0 GPA
 - U.S. Citizen
 - Must be attending an Indiana College or University
- Contact
 - Fund for Hoosier Excellence
 - P.O. Box 97
 - Indianapolis, IN 46206
 - (317)633-4015

Senator Lugar's Scholarship Handbook

- Provides a compilation of informational resources available to all students interested in obtaining scholarships in Indiana's colleges and universities
- Outline of Scholarship Information Provided
 - General Scholarships
 - Public Institutions
 - Independent Institutions
 - Minority Scholarships
 - Public Institutions
 - Independent Institutions
 - Other Scholarships for Indiana Residents
 - Proprietary Schools in Indiana
 - State of Indiana Grant, Scholarship, and Work Study Programs
 - Additional Scholarship Websites

Internship Opportunities in Richard Lugar's Offices

- 4 Regional Offices
 - Indianapolis
 - Fort Wayne
 - Valparaiso
 - Evansville
- Washington D.C.
- Senate Foreign Relations Committee Internship

Internship Application Process

- Fall and Spring Internships are **not** paid
- Fall deadline: July 1
- Spring deadline: November 15
- Summer deadline: March 1
- Materials Needed
 - Completed application
 - 3 letters of recommendation
 - College transcript
 - Recent photograph
- For additional questions and/or to download the application please visit
<http://lugar.senate.gov/services/intern/#fw>

Washington D.C. and Senate Foreign Relations Committee Internship

- Regional Offices internship:
Turn in applications to
Intern Coordinator
1180 Market Tower
10 West Market Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(317)226-5555 (phone)
(317)226-5508 (fax)
- Fort Wayne Office
Wayne Stanley
6384-A West Jefferson Blvd.
Fort Wayne, IN 46804
(260)422-1505 (phone)
(260)424-1342 (fax)
- D.C. Internship: Turn in applications to
Jon Rosenbaum, Intern Coordinator
(202)224-4814 (phone)
(202)228-0369 (fax)
jon_rosenbaum@lugar.senate.gov
- Senate Foreign Relations Committee Internship: Turn in applications to
Katie Lee, Intern Coordinator
(202)224-6797 (phone)
(202)224-0836 (fax)
Katie_lee@foreign.senate.gov

Questions

- Susan Brouillette
317-226-5555

- Celina Weatherwax
- 219-548-8035
- Celina_weatherwax
@lugar.senate.gov