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Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

February 26, 2018

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY

RANKING MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT
AND MANAGEMENT EFFICIENCY

SUBCOMMITTEE ON BORDER AND MARITIME SECURITY

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH

SCANNED/RECEIVED
BY ESEC SEC
2018 MAR 12 PM 1:34

The Honorable Kirstjen M. Nielsen
Secretary
Department of Homeland Security
Washington, D.C. 20528

Dear Secretary Nielsen:

I write to express my deep concern over the threat to repeal legal protections for Dreamers. Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients play an integral role in our nation's economy and within the small business sector. Ending their protected status would detrimentally affect our economy and communities across the United States.

A comprehensive report published by the House Small Business Committee detailed that repealing legal protections for Dreamers would cost our nation \$460 billion in economic output over a decade. In addition, the report analysis highlights that Dreamers contribute an estimated \$2 billion per year in state and local taxes, including personal income, property, sales, and excise taxes. By taking away their protected status, we are not only robbing our nation of bright, productive, and hardworking individuals, but also nearly \$800 million per year. The ramifications of repealing DACA will have profound negative effects on our country.

In the State of California alone, state and local tax contributions of DACA-eligible individuals amounts to \$534 million annually. Additionally, the annual Gross Domestic Product loss from removing workers with DACA would result in almost a \$12 billion loss for California. DACA eligible workers also contribute \$1.4 billion in federal taxes, \$2 billion in Social Security taxes, and \$470 million in Medicare annually. Moreover, Dreamers start small businesses at twice the rate of the general population. More than five percent of DACA recipients under the age of 25 have started a small business and eight percent of Dreamers over 25 years old employ workers. If DACA is repealed, many businesses will inevitably shutdown, jobs will be lost, and our economy and communities will suffer.

I urge you to protect the status of Dreamers and allow our communities to continue to prosper with the contributions they make to our cities, states, and country.

Respectfully,

J. LUIS CORREA
Member of Congress



**U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services**

April 20, 2018

The Honorable J. Luis Correa
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Correa:

Thank you for your February 26, 2018 letter. Secretary Nielsen asked that I respond on her behalf.

Due to pending litigation regarding the rescission of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, the Department is unable to comment further at this time.

Thank you again for your letter and interest in this important issue. Should you require any additional assistance, please have your staff contact the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Office of Legislative Affairs at (202) 272-1940.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "LFC", written over a horizontal line.

L. Francis Cissna
Director