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HOUSE MEMORIAL

53RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2018

INTRODUCED BY

DISCUSSION DRAFT

A MEMORIAL

EXPRESSING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES' SUPPORT OF DREAMERS
AND REQUESTING WORK ON COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM.

WHEREAS, many immigrant parents bring their children to
the United States to provide them with greater opportunities
for access to the "American dream"; and

WHEREAS, the federal deferred action for childhood
arrivals program was created by an executive order signed by
President Barack Obama in August 2012; and

WHEREAS, the deferred action for childhood arrivals
program gives certain immigrants who came to the United States
before they were sixteen years old, known as "dreamers", a
chance to stay in the United States to study or work, provided
that those dreamers meet certain conditions; and

WHEREAS, nearly seven hundred ninety thousand young

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1 dreamers have received work permits and deportation relief
2 through the federal deferred action for childhood arrivals
3 program; and

4 WHEREAS, those approved for participation in the deferred
5 action for childhood arrivals program are given a work permit
6 and protection from deportation for two years, which permit and
7 protection can be renewed; and

8 WHEREAS, the immigrant population in the United States is
9 very diverse, including people from a range of backgrounds,
10 ethnicities and nationalities. In 2015, forty-seven percent of
11 immigrants to the United States reported their race as "white",
12 twenty-seven percent as "Asian", nine percent as "black" and
13 fifteen percent as another race; and

14 WHEREAS, according to the 2014 American community survey,
15 seven and two-tenths percent of the twenty-two million
16 undocumented immigrants in the United States were black; and

17 WHEREAS, among the top fifteen countries of origin of
18 undocumented immigrants in the United States, a broad range of
19 countries is represented, including Mexico, China, India,
20 Canada and Haiti; and

21 WHEREAS, New Mexico is home to an estimated ten thousand
22 immigrants who would qualify for participation in the deferred
23 action for childhood arrivals program and nearly seven thousand
24 dreamers. Regardless of their immigration status, those
25 dreamers deserve equal protection under the law; and

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1 WHEREAS, the institute on taxation and economic policy
2 reported that in 2010, undocumented immigrants in New Mexico
3 paid eighty-six million seven hundred thousand dollars
4 (\$86,700,000) in state and local taxes, including seventy-five
5 million two hundred thousand dollars (\$75,200,000) in gross
6 receipts taxes, three million three hundred thousand dollars
7 (\$3,300,000) in state income taxes and eight million dollars
8 (\$8,000,000) in property taxes; and

9 WHEREAS, the deferred action for childhood arrivals
10 program is popular with the public and enjoys the support of
11 employers, educators, community leaders and elected officials
12 from across the political spectrum. According to a *Morning*
13 *Consult* and *Politico* poll in April 2017, seventy-eight percent
14 of American voters support giving dreamers the chance to stay
15 in the United States permanently; and

16 WHEREAS, President Donald Trump issued an executive order
17 in September 2017 ending the deferred action for childhood
18 arrivals program;

19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
20 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that it stand in
21 strong alliance with dreamers and in opposition to the
22 president's rescission of the deferred action for childhood
23 arrivals program; and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the house of representatives
25 urge the president to stand by those who were brought as

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1 children to this country, the only home many of them have ever
2 known; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the house of representatives
4 support a comprehensive and workable approach to repairing the
5 nation's broken immigration system; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the house of representatives
7 call upon the United States congress to take affirmative steps
8 to develop a new bipartisan and effective version of the
9 deferred action for childhood arrivals program that does not
10 require dreamers to choose between their own futures and the
11 futures of their undocumented families and neighbors; and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
13 transmitted to the president and vice president of the United
14 States, the United States secretary of homeland security and
15 the New Mexico congressional delegation.