



News Release

For Immediate Release
September 5, 2017

Contact:
Dr. Santiago Wood
Executive Director
954-729-4557

drsantiagow@gmail.com
www.nabe.org

NABE REAFFIRMS ITS STRONG COMMITMENT AND SUPPORT FOR DACA STUDENTS

Washington—The fight to defend DACA took a turn for the worse this week, as most of you must have already learned. **President Trump has taken action to eliminate the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program that for five years has allowed young immigrants who arrived in the U.S. more than ten years ago as children to come forward, register, submit to a background check, and be allowed to work while designated as the lowest priority for deportation.** The President has called upon Congress to approve a comprehensive immigration bill within the next six month that will include DACA. Needless to say that this may be futile at best, since the U.S. Congress has been attempting to pass a comprehensive immigration bill for more than 10 years. The President's decision is very unfortunate and will, undoubtedly, create great disruption, fear, undue stress and chaos in the lives of these gifted, law abiding, college going, military serving, and promising undocumented immigrant students who were brought into the United States as children. For all intensive purposes they are culturally and linguistically U.S. Citizens since they have only known the United States to be their country.

The National Association for Bilingual Education (NABE) joins the chorus of many organizations and groups nationwide, to oppose and to condemn these actions, in the strongest possible terms, and urges all members of the U.S. Congress to work in a bipartisan manner, with all urgency, to do its job in finding a permanent solution to this national crisis. NABE pledges steadfast support and advocacy for all DACA students and extends warmest welcome to all immigrants and refugee students and families to our great nation regardless of their ethnicity, language, cultural and socioeconomic background, immigration status or religious belief.

NABE further extends an invitation to the Trump administration, members of Congress and other local and state legislative leaders to work together with our organization and the Hispanic Education Coalition Partners (HEC) to resist and to

oppose any punitive, political and divisive measures, aimed at DACA students and the Multilingual English Learner Community.

Since 1975, the National Association for Bilingual Education (NABE) has been a national non-profit, non-partisan, education membership organization in Washington, D.C. working to advocate for educational equity and excellence for bilingual/multilingual students in a global society. NABE has over 20 national and international affiliates working to improve instructional practices for our nation's 4.7 million Dual and English Language Learners and the more than twenty-thousand teachers and educational leaders who serve them.

#####

Did you know this about DACA recipients: 95% are working or in school, 48% got a job with better working conditions, 90% got a driver's license or state ID and 12% were even able to buy a first home.

DACA, together with TPS, protects over 1,000,000 people who call this country their home. Ending DACA and TPS will mean that over 1,000,000 people could be deported because the government already has their personal information.

The "defend DACA" website has created a resource guide, including a mental health toolkit, to provide support for those that will be seriously affected by the decisions made by the administration regarding DACA:

<http://defenddaca.com/resources/>

Below please find the link to view the **Memorandum on Rescission Of Deferred Action For Childhood Arrivals (DACA)**:

<https://www.dhs.gov/news/2017/09/05/memorandum-rescission-daca>