

## **NABE Proudly reaffirms its Unconditional Support for the Recently Approved Dream Act HR6**

**Washington — June 5, 2019**

**With a handful of Republican votes, House Democrats passed the latest version of the DREAM Act, an ambitious expansion of a nearly two-decades-long legislative effort that would place millions of young undocumented immigrants and immigrants with temporary status on a pathway to U.S. citizenship. The Democratic-led chamber approved the sweeping immigration bill, dubbed the DREAM and Promise Act of 2019, by a vote of 237 to 187, sending the legislation to the Republican-controlled Senate, which is unlikely to consider it. The White House has also issued a veto threat against the measure. Seven Republicans in the House joined 230 Democrats in voting for the bill. No Democrats voted against the measure.**

**NABE and its coalition partners from the Hispanic Education Coalition, which unite more than 20 organizations dedicated to improving educational opportunities and outcomes for more than 54 million Latinos living in the United States and Puerto Rico, along with other partners such as the Association for Latino Administrators and Superintendents (ALAS), American Federation of Teachers (AFT), Center for Applied Linguistics (CAL), Joint National Commission on Language (JNCL), Ana G. Mendez University (AGMUS) and TESOL have long supported legislative and regulatory reforms, such as the DREAM Act and DACA that help undocumented students attain their educational dreams, including reforms that help Latino and Latina students pursue STEM education.**

**The proposal approved by the House Democrats, would grant young undocumented immigrants who came to the U.S. as children, including those shielded from deportation by the Obama-era Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, an opportunity to acquire permanent lawful status if they meet certain requirements. The bill would also allow hundreds of thousands of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) recipients — as**

**well as Liberian immigrants covered by Deferred Enforced Departure (DED) — to gain permanent residency.**

**Despite the bill's bleak prospects in the Senate, House Democrats believe the passage of one of their signature legislative issues will convey to the electorate that they continue using their majority to push through legislation, even during a tense standoff with the White House and increasing talk of a possible impeachment inquiry against President Trump.**

**The legislation was spearheaded by Reps. Lucille Roybal-Allard, Nydia Velázquez and Yvette Clarke — would grant DACA recipients and other young undocumented immigrants conditional U.S. permanent residency for 10 years if they meet certain criteria. To be eligible, immigrants must have been younger than 18 when they came to the U.S., and must have lived in the U.S. continuously over the previous four years. They must also have an American high school diploma or GED and pass a background check. Those who have committed serious crimes would be ineligible. To be placed on a pathway to citizenship under the bill, these young immigrants must earn a college degree or complete two years of a degree program in an institution of higher education or technical school.**

**They would also qualify if they served honorably in the military or have been employed in the U.S. for more than three years. The proposal would also grant this group of young undocumented immigrant access to federal financial aid for college. DED and TPS recipients, meanwhile, would be able to obtain permanent residency if they have resided in the U.S. for more than three years before the proposed legislation is enacted and if they do not have any felony convictions or more than one misdemeanor. The government currently allows more than 700,000 DACA recipients, commonly referred to as DREAMers, to renew their protections for a period of two years. Four circuit courts, however, have blocked the government from completely dismantling the program, and the Supreme Court this week denied a Justice Department request to fast track the high court's consideration of the legal battle surrounding DACA.**