



**2023-2024
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Carolyn M. Coleman

October 25, 2023

Dear Members of the California Congressional Delegation,

On behalf of the League of California Cities (Cal Cities), I write to reaffirm our support for the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, which remains under threat in light of the recent Fifth Circuit district court ruling on September 13, 2023, that the program violates U.S. immigration law. This decision continues to underscore the uncertain future of the successful DACA program, which has enabled over 900,000 immigrants to stay in the U.S., attend school, and contribute to the economy through employment for over a decade.

Cal Cities has consistently advocated, in conjunction with the National League of Cities, for Congress to enact a comprehensive approach to the immigration issue — one that not only addresses equitable enforcement but also incorporates thoughtful and sensitive solutions to the realities associated with millions of families, students, and workers living in California and throughout the country.

Immigration is the responsibility of the federal government, yet the inability of Congress to enact comprehensive immigration reform policies has left states and localities on their own to respond to immigration-related issues that have many human, economic, and societal impacts. Piecemeal proposals on this sensitive issue do not work and can have harmful and divisive impacts and create fear and uncertainty in our communities.

Cal Cities urges Congress to stand by Dreamers by taking affirmative steps toward developing a bipartisan and even more effective version of DACA, which includes a pathway to citizenship to support those who, because they were brought in as children, only know the United States to be their country, their home.

For these reasons, Cal Cities urges Congress to take expedited action to end the needless uncertainty for these young DACA recipients and restore confidence that our federal government can address such policy issues responsibly, comprehensively, and in a bipartisan fashion.

Sincerely,

Daniel T. Parra
President, League of California Cities
Mayor, Fowler