



For Immediate Release
June 15, 2021

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TEXAS OPPORTUNITY COALITION STATEMENT ON SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE HEARING ON DREAM AND PROMISE ACT

Leading Texas Business Coalition urges swift passage of federal DREAM Act that will protect country's economy post COVID-19 pandemic

AUSTIN, TX - The [Texas Opportunity Coalition](#) released the following statement in response to the Senate Judiciary Committee hearing held on the DREAM Act by Senator Richard Durbin (D-IL). The proposal, among several things, would provide a pathway to lawful status for more than one million undocumented youth who were brought to the U.S. by no fault of their own as children and grew up and were educated in the U.S. Texas senators John Cornyn and Ted Cruz are both members of the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Justin Yancy, Juan Carlos Cerda, and Eddie Aldrete, Founding Members of the **Texas Opportunity Coalition** issued the following statement on the bill's reintroduction:

"As the lives of 100,000 DACA recipients in Texas remain in limbo, it is in everyone's economic interest to finally find a long-term federal solution to DACA. Swift passage of the federal Dream Act will not only provide Texas employers, corporations and Dreamers with the security they need, it will help jumpstart our economic recovery from the devastating COVID-19 pandemic.

In Texas alone, 204,000 Dreamers are living, working, and contributing more than \$963 million in local, state and federal taxes - which helps keep businesses going and generates jobs. Growing these economic contributions, rather than limiting them, is in our state's and country's best interest.

As representatives of Texas' business community, we are calling on members of both parties - including Senator John Cornyn and Senator Ted Cruz - to support and pass the American Dream and Promise Act in a bipartisan manner. Our country is at risk losing out on billions of dollars each year if Congress cannot provide Dreamers with the certainty they need."

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About the Texas Opportunity Coalition

The Texas Opportunity Coalition is dedicated to securing passage of a federal Dream Act, which would provide Dreamers in Texas and across the country the right to work, pursue higher education, contribute to their local economies, and obtain lawful status. The coalition includes almost 90 representatives from statewide business associations, Texas corporations, local chambers of commerce, and Texas universities and colleges. Its efforts are structured around five core principles that should inform any legislative effort to enact immigration reform. These principles can be viewed at: <http://www.txopportunity.org/policy.html>

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