Nebraska State Legislature

SENATOR TONY VARGAS

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July 18, 2017

Attorney General Doug Peterson
2115 State Capitol
PO Box 98290
Lincoln, NE 68509

Dear Attorney General Peterson,

We, the undersigned Nebraska State Senators, write to you to express our profound disappointment that the Nebraska Attorney General's office joined the June 29th letter sent to U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions asking the President to rescind the 2012 Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program.

DACA is a program that gives an incredible measure of stability to the lives of its recipients. It has helped over 3,000 young, hardworking Nebraskans contribute to their communities, continue their education, and help fuel our state's economy.

Over the last several years, the Nebraska Legislature – joined by a broad coalition of businesses, local leaders, faith groups, and chambers of commerce – has consistently demonstrated its support for the incredible young people in our state who are participants of the DACA program. We have heard their stories in our hearing rooms, have talked to them in our Capitol rotunda, and have voted to break down statutory barriers to allow them to continue to achieve their ongoing professional, educational, and personal successes. Their success is inescapably intertwined with our own state's success.

Time and time again these young Nebraskans have inspired us and have shown us that they are a vital and vibrant part of our state's community. Just this year the Legislature reaffirmed its support for DACA youth by adopting LR26, which stated the Legislature's opposition to any federal action that would rescind this important program.

Ending DACA, as the June 29th letter demands, would be devastating to a group of young people who have called Nebraska home their entire lives. The Nebraska Legislature has a long and proud history of standing by our young Nebraska immigrants. We have stood by our DACA youth for the last several years, and we will continue to support them and all that they contribute to our state.

We urge you to rescind your support of the June 29th joint letter and rescind your support of a lawsuit to end the DACA program.

Sincerely,



Senator Tony Vargas, District 7

Senator Adam Morfeld, District 46
Senator Roy Baker, District 30
Senator Carol Blood, District 3
Senator Kate Bolz, District 29
Senator Ernie Chambers, District 11
Senator Sue Crawford, District 45
Senator Laura Ebke, District 32
Senator Matt Hansen, District 26
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Senator Dan Quick, District 35
Senator Justin Wayne, District 13
Senator Matt Williams, District 36
Senator Anna Wishart, District 27