

Protecting Young People in the DACA Program

WHEREAS in 2012, the Obama Administration launched a program addressing immigration policy regarding individuals who entered our country as minors; this program, the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals or DACA, has created a form of documentation allowing these young men and women to work, take on apprenticeships, attend college, serve in our armed forces and continue to build a life for themselves here in this country; and

WHEREAS the requirements needed to qualify for this program have rewarded individuals with high levels of personal responsibility and achievement, in their formative years, we have made these young people a part of our community, we have called them neighbors, students, friends and family, we have made an investment in their education and welfare and now we have the opportunity to receive a return on that investment by allowing them work, serve and build a stronger America; and

WHEREAS Donald Trump has taken the first step in fulfilling his campaign promise to terminate DACA and deport everyone under its protections by sending Attorney General Sessions to announce the end of DACA, while positioning Congress to take responsibility for any action or inaction on DACA, thereby absolving himself of personal blame, and at the same time upsetting the lives of hundreds of thousands of young people who no longer know what their immediate future will be;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Los Angeles County Democratic Party stands in resistance against the Trump Administration's heartless punishment of some 790,000 innocent young men and women living in America under DACA provisions; we recognize the commitment these young people have made to our nation and their contributions and service to the only country they call home, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, we call upon every Democratic elected official to do all in their power to protect these young dreamers, and, on behalf of the more than 200,000 DACA participants in California, we ask that the laws of our state be made to serve as shield and sanctuary for our own dreamers, for we cannot bear to see these lives diminished or banished.

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