

Hidalgo County Commissioners' Court

Resolution Supporting the Continuing Protections Afforded Under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Program

WHEREAS DACA, which stands for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, was an executive action rendered in 2012 by President Barack Obama to protect the children of immigrants by preventing their deportation and providing them with the right to obtain an education and the right to work in the United States; and

WHEREAS DACA covers approximately 800,000 individuals in the United States; and

WHEREAS Hidalgo County is the eighth largest county by population in Texas; and

WHEREAS Hidalgo County is the most populated county in the State of Texas bordering Mexico; and

WHEREAS Hidalgo County has a particularly high number of DACA beneficiaries, many of whom are distinguished community pillars, and they bring skills, ingenuity, and resilience that contribute to the growth and competitiveness of our region; and

WHEREAS statistics show that DACA recipients are high-achieving Americans who create businesses at twice the rate of the public as a whole and who are employed at a rate of 90%; and

WHEREAS DACA recipients have passed background checks and pose no threat to our country; and

WHEREAS in September of 2017 President Donald J. Trump rescinded DACA and as a result hundreds of thousands of DACA recipients now face the threat of deportation in upcoming months; and

WHEREAS holding DACA legislation hostage to the approval of the construction of the border wall is discriminatory and unworkable; and

WHEREAS DACA recipients are American in every sense except for their legal status;

THEREFORE, Hidalgo County calls on our federal leadership to pass legislation allowing DACA recipients to lawfully stay in the country they call home. Hidalgo County further joins the collective voice of the many requests made to Congress to pass bipartisan legislation providing these young Americans the permanent solution they deserve.

Wording for Agenda:

1. Discussion and possible action regarding the approval of a "Resolution Supporting the Continuing Protections Afforded Under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Program."
2. Authority and action to submit copy of "Resolution Supporting the Continuing Protections Afforded Under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Program" to Federal Congressman Filemon Vela, Federal Congressman Henry Cuellar, Federal Congressman Vicente Gonzalez, Federal Senator John Cornyn, Federal Senator Ted Cruz, and U.S. President Donald J. Trump.