COALITION for the AMERICAN DREAM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE June 3, 2019

CONTACT: press@coalitionfortheamericandream.us

Leading Business Coalition Urges "Yes" Vote on Long Overdue Legislation to Protect Dreamers, Support American Economy *Calls on Both Parties to Come Together in Support of Bipartisan Path Forward*

WASHINGTON D.C. – In advance of this week's expected vote before the full House of Representatives on the *American Dream and Promise Act of 2019* (H.R. 6), the Coalition for the American Dream, which represents many of the nation's top businesses, trade associations and other organizations, released the following statement today urging support for this long overdue legislation:

"As a coalition that represents many of America's economic and business leaders, and proudly employs thousands of Dreamers, we urge all members of the House of Representatives to vote 'yes' in support of the *American Dream and Promise Act of 2019*.

"There is broad, bipartisan support across the country for protecting these nearly 700,000 hardworking men and women who came to this country through no fault of their own and play a critical role in America's economic success. Subjecting them to mass deportation because Congress failed to act, could negatively impact economic growth and harm our country's global competitiveness.

"Now is the time for both parties to come together, provide certainty for Dreamers, protect our economy and pass legislation which poll after poll makes clear is supported by a strong majority of the American people. America's job creators are counting on Congress to do the right thing by passing the *American Dream and Promise Act of 2019.*"

Background:

• A new nationwide poll released just this week by the Global Strategy Group (GSG) reaffirmed that voters nationwide and across party lines are resoundingly in favor of protecting Dreamers. <u>Click here to see the full poll results</u> and a new GSG memo which noted: "Support for this proposal is strong and resilient, with voters continuing to support the proposal by an overwhelming margin even after they are exposed to a series of negative messages against the idea."

- Earlier this year, the Coalition <u>sent a letter</u> to House and Senate leaders in both parties urging action on Dreamers and published it as a <u>full-page ad in the New York Times</u>. Among those who signed it were the CEO's for some of the country's biggest companies including Walmart, General Motors, Amazon, IBM, Marriott, Coca-Cola, Apple, Johnson & Johnson, Facebook, Target, Microsoft, Best Buy, Verizon, Google and many others. Additional signatories were the chief executives of some of the country's biggest trade associations that collectively represent thousands of American businesses, including the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, National Retail Federation, National Association of Manufacturers and the American Hotel & Lodging Association.
- Dreamers directly contribute to the success of numerous U.S. companies. At least 72 percent of the top 25 Fortune 500 companies employ Dreamers—including IBM, Walmart, Apple, General Motors, Amazon, JPMorgan Chase, Home Depot, Wells Fargo, among others. Those companies alone generate almost \$3 trillion in annual revenue.
- Failing to address this issue and removing over 700,000 Dreamers from the workforce virtually overnight would inflict serious harm on U.S. companies, all workers, and the American economy as a whole. In fact, studies show that our economy could <u>lose</u> \$350 billion in GDP, and the federal government could lose \$90 billion in tax revenue.
- Further, a study by the conservative-leaning American Action Forum (AAF) found that physically removing all Dreamers would cost between \$7 billion and \$21 billion and reduce U.S. GDP by 0.4 percent.

For any additional information please visit: coalitionfortheamericandream.us

###