

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 4, 2021

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Top Business Coalition Applauds Bipartisan Effort in Senate to Provide Permanent Protections for Dreamers

Urges Congress to Act Quickly in Weeks Ahead

WASHINGTON D.C. – The Coalition for the American Dream, which comprises more than 100 of the nation's top businesses and trade associations representing every major sector of the economy and millions of U.S. workers, today applauded U.S. Senators Dick Durbin (D-IL) and Lindsey Graham (R-SC) for introducing a permanent bipartisan legislative solution to protect Dreamers and urged Congress to pass it within the first 100 days of the new Congress.

The two Senators this week reintroduced the bipartisan Dream Act, which would allow immigrants who came to this country as children, and grew up in the United States, to earn lawful permanent residence and eventually American citizenship if they meet certain educational or military requirements, successfully pass a background check, and remain in good legal standing.

"Poll after poll has shown that overwhelming majorities of Americans in both political parties support Dreamers. Providing permanent protections for these hardworking young people who have always called America their home, is long overdue and it is time for Congress to act," the Coalition said today. "We applaud the cosponsors and supporters of this bill for reaching across the political divide and finding common ground on this legislation. These young people are important to the future of our companies and our economy, and job creators across the country are counting on Congress and the new Administration. It's now incumbent on leaders in both parties to build on this momentum and help get this legislation across the finish line."

Last week, the Coalition sent a letter to President Biden pledging support for a permanent legislative solution for Dreamers. "DACA recipients contribute billions of dollars to the GDP; they pay federal, state, and local taxes; they work at our companies, teach our children in school, and serve in our military. Further, 1 million Dreamers are helping us combat COVID-19 and recover from this economic crisis on the front lines as essential workers....We look forward to working alongside you and your Administration to swiftly pass a permanent legislative solution for Dreamers, that includes a pathway to citizenship, within your first 100 days in office," the Coalition wrote.

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