

COALITION *for the*
AMERICAN DREAM

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CONTACT: press@coalitionfortheamericandream.us

**Dozens of Top U.S. Employers Send Letter to Congressional Leaders
Citing Impending “Crisis” if Congress Fails to Act on DACA**

*American Business Leaders Say Current Labor Shortage Will Only Get Worse & U.S.
Economy Will Lose Over \$11 Billion Annually*

WASHINGTON D.C. – More than 80 of the nation’s top business leaders sent a letter today to Congressional leaders in both parties outlining why Congress must act swiftly to pass legislation to help protect Dreamers, U.S. companies, and the economy this year. The letter comes in the wake of a recent decision by the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals in the case of the *State of Texas v. United States of America*. The Court deemed the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) policy unlawful, and it is expected that the U.S. Supreme Court is likely to uphold the ruling.

The letter was signed by many of the nation’s leading companies and trade associations that represent thousands of U.S. businesses, including the American Hotel & Lodging Association, Business Roundtable, National Association of Manufacturers, National Retail Federation, Retail Industry Leaders Association, and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, among others. It was also signed by top U.S. employers including Amazon, Apple, Cisco, Eli Lilly, General Motors, Hilton, IBM, IKEA, Levi Strauss, Microsoft, Molson Coors, Target and Verizon, among many others.

The new letter and urgent call for action also ran as a full-page advertisement in today’s *Wall Street Journal*, *Dallas Morning News*, and *Charlotte Observer*.

[Click here to read the full letter](#)

Key letter excerpts are below:

- “We write on behalf of thousands of U.S. businesses, large and small, that represent every major sector of the U.S. economy and more than half of America’s private sector workers. Collectively, we represent the backbone of an American economy facing tremendous workforce challenges as a result of the pandemic. We face another crisis if Congress fails to act on an issue that has strong bipartisan support from the American people.”

- “Given that DACA applications and renewals were granted on a rolling basis, the end to this program means that an estimated 22,000 jobs would be lost every month for

two years. That is roughly 1,000 job losses per business day at a time when the U.S. economy already faces significant workforce shortages. When the last DACA recipient's work permit expires, the U.S. will have lost more than 500,000 jobs, and the U.S. economy will lose as much as \$11.7 billion annually – or roughly \$1 billion monthly – in wages from previously employed DACA recipients.”

- “For the last several years, this coalition has called upon Congress to act by passing a permanent, bipartisan legislative solution that would enable Dreamers who are currently living, working, and contributing to our communities to continue doing so. Poll after poll has shown strong majorities of Americans in both political parties, including 71 percent of “conservatives,” support protecting Dreamers.”
- “The 5th Circuit Court’s ruling makes it clear that Congress cannot afford to ignore this issue any longer. Bipartisan measures have already been introduced in the U.S. House and Senate. We urge you to swiftly pass legislation this year that will help Dreamers, American businesses, and our country.”

If you are reporting on this, please also consider the following quotes from key business leaders:

“Dreamers are an essential part of the fabric of our nation. They make our communities stronger, they make our companies more innovative, and they deserve a right to live in America with dignity. I stand with the bipartisan majority of Americans who agree that granting permanent protections for Dreamers is the right thing to do. It’s time for Congress to act.”

-- Tim Cook, CEO of Apple

“Dreamers, brought to this country by parents in search of a better life, have lived with uncertainty for far too long. The Fifth Circuit's decision makes their future as uncertain as ever. Microsoft has long used our voice to support Dreamers—through litigation and advocacy—and we will continue to do so. We need Congress to enact a bipartisan legislative solution.” -- **Brad Smith, Vice Chair and President of Microsoft**

"The United States has a broken and unreliable immigration system. It is, first and foremost, a humanitarian issue, but the broken system is also harming manufacturers' competitiveness. As the NAM advocates in our in-depth immigration agenda, called ‘A Way Forward,’ Congress must provide certainty for millions of Dreamers who were brought here as children and know no other home than the U.S. Lawmakers should also establish requirements for the DACA population to become citizens. Dreamers do not deserve the years of uncertainty they've endured, and getting rid of that uncertainty will also mean strengthening our workforce and growing the talent pool. Those are just some of the reasons manufacturing leaders agree that we need to fix this now." -- **Jay Timmons, President and CEO of the National Association of Manufacturers**

“Retailers have long supported efforts to provide a permanent solution for Deferred Action on Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients. Our communities, businesses and economy have all benefitted from the contributions of these young men and women. Now more than ever, it is time

to provide them with a pathway to lawful permanent residence and ultimately American citizenship.” -- **Matthew Shay, President and CEO of the National Retail Federation**

For any additional information please visit: coalitionfortheamericandream.us

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