



July 24, 2017

The Honorable Richard Durbin  
US Senate  
Room 711 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20015

Dear Senator Durbin,

We are writing to extend our sincerest gratitude and support to you, Senator Graham, Senator Flake, and Senator Schumer for introducing the bipartisan *Dream Act of 2017*. It is heartening to see such an illustrative group of Senators reach across the aisle to work together to ensure immigrant children can continue pursuing the American dream.

Nearly two decades ago, KIPP was built on a promise: helping 47 fifth-graders from low-income families climb the mountain to and through college. Today, our network of schools has grown to serve nearly 90,000 students – 95 percent of which are African American or Hispanic and 88 percent are eligible for Free or Reduced Price Lunch – in 209 schools, which span across 20 states and the District of Columbia. Since our founding, we have made a promise to every child who enrolls in our schools to help them reach their highest potential regardless of their immigration status, which has always been both the right thing to do and consistent with the law of the land. In doing so, we want to see all our students achieve their dreams to make our country as strong as it can be. While there is always room for further improvement, we are proud that our students are completing college at a rate that is above the national average for all students and four times higher than that of students from similar economic backgrounds.

We have seen firsthand the positive impact that federal policy can have had on our undocumented students. Brandon is just one example of a KIPP alum who is a Dreamer. Brandon has shared that: *"I am currently thriving in my second year in college and am on track to graduate from one of the best business schools in the country. And after graduation, I plan to become a strategy consultant and incorporate my knowledge of Management Information Systems into my work life. Everywhere I look I see good people doing good things – people in power advocating for students like me. That is what makes me hopeful. I believe in America, and I know, through nineteen years of experience, that Americans believe in me."* Thanks to your leadership immigrant students – like Brandon – will continue to have a pathway to be able to work, study, and, one day, seek American citizenship.

Please let us know how we can help support you in ensuring the bipartisan *Dream Act of 2017* swiftly becomes law.

Plow On,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Barth".

Richard Barth  
CEO

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Feinberg", followed by a small smiley face.

Mike Feinberg  
Co-Founder

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dave Levin", followed by a small smiley face.

Dave Levin  
Co-Founder