

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

October 4, 2017

President Donald Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Trump,

We write to urge you to extend tomorrow's October 5, 2017 renewal deadline for individuals with Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) status.

As you know, on September 5, 2017, Attorney General Jeff Sessions announced your Administration had decided to end the DACA program. As part of this decision, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) stated that individuals eligible to renew their DACA status before March 5, 2018 would need to do so within one month.¹

This deadline affects 154,000 young people.² If they are unable to meet tomorrow's deadline, they could lose their jobs and medical care, and even face deportation.

As part of the renewal process, individuals must carefully complete several government forms. In addition, renewal applicants must provide two passport photos and pay a \$495 fee. Collecting this amount of money within such a short timeframe is cost-prohibitive for most Americans, and even more so for these young individuals, who are juggling school, work, and family obligations.

Furthermore, the devastation wrought by Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria has affected thousands of DACA recipients. Destruction to homes and infrastructure, and disruption of basic services have created substantial barriers in gathering documents and accessing services necessary for renewing the DACA status of those affected by these storms.

Unless the deadline is extended, tens of thousands of young people may be left out of status and out of options. We ask that you demonstrate compassion for these hardworking young people by extending the deadline to January 5, 2018, and provide those eligible with direct notice

¹ Sessions, J. (2017, September 5). Attorney General Sessions Delivers Remarks on DACA. Retrieved October 4, 2017, from <https://www.justice.gov/opa/speech/attorney-general-sessions-delivers-remarks-daca>

² U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (2017, September 7) Approximate Active DACA Recipients as of September 4, 2017 by Month Validity Expires and Status of Associated Renewal as of September 7, 2017. Retrieved October 4, 2017, from https://www.uscis.gov/sites/default/files/USCIS/Resources/Reports%20and%20Studies/Immigration%20Forms%20Data/All%20Form%20Types/DACA/daca_renewal_data.pdf

of the date by which they must renew. Furthermore, we urge you to ensure that the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) adheres to historic immigration policy by processing all applications that are postmarked by the deadline, rather than only those which are physically received by the agency.

By implementing these changes, you will ensure that there is reasonable time for these individuals to be notified, seek the necessary legal services to renew, complete the application, and pay the fee.

Sincerely,



KAMALA D. HARRIS
United States Senator



LINDSEY O. GRAHAM
United States Senator