

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

April 27, 2022

The Honorable Tim Ryan  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on the Legislative Branch  
House Committee on Appropriations  
H-306, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Herrera Beutler  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on the Legislative Branch  
House Committee on Appropriations  
H-306, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mike Quigley  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Financial Services  
and General Government  
House Committee on Appropriations  
2000 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Steven Womack  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Financial Services  
and General Government  
House Committee on Appropriations  
2000 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Ryan, Chairman Quigley, Ranking Member Herrera Beutler and Ranking Member Womack:

As you consider funding for Fiscal Year 2023 (FY23), we strongly urge you to expand federal employment requirements to include recipients of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program.

As you know, the DACA program was established in 2012 to protect eligible immigrants, who came to the United States when they were children, from deportation. The program also provides recipients with work authorization, allowing them to be legally employed in the U.S. Today, more than 600,000 DACA recipients live and work in our country, making immeasurable contributions to our communities, to employers large and small, and to our nation as a whole, including paying more than \$6.2 billion in federal taxes each year.

DACA recipients have been raised and educated in this country. On average, DACA recipients arrived in the U.S. at the age of 7, meaning the United States is the only home that they have ever known, and the country they love. Today, more than 1.5 million people live with a family member who is a DACA recipient.

DACA recipients are American in every way and influence all sectors of our society. These young men and women serve in uniform, teach in schools, start businesses on Main Streets across the country, and contribute to the fabric of our communities in every conceivable way. DACA recipients occupy roles and are pursuing degrees in critical industries that influence government policy and operations, including tech, finance, health care, education, environment, and law. And just as DACA recipients are making a positive difference in the private sector, they

are positioned to make significant contributions to the federal workforce. Yet, inexplicably, they are barred from federal employment.

DACA recipients have been serving as federal interns and fellows through third party entities, contributing diverse experience and expertise to the work of the federal government, but have no avenue for permanent federal employment. Historically, appropriations legislation has routinely prohibited the federal government from hiring non-citizens. Congress, and the federal government more broadly, could benefit from the contributions of DACA recipients, if only we removed the barriers preventing them for joining our federal workforce. We, therefore, advocate strongly for their inclusion in the federal workforce, and we request the following language be included in FY23 funding legislation. The legislative branch appropriations language passed the House in FY 22.

### **Legislative Branch Appropriations**

*Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an entity may use amounts appropriated or otherwise made available under this Act to pay the compensation of an officer or employee without regard to the officer's or employee's immigration status if the officer or employee has been issued an employment authorization document under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Program of the Secretary of Homeland Security, established pursuant to the memorandum from the Secretary of Homeland Security entitled "Exercising Prosecutorial Discretion with Respect to Individuals Who Came to the United States as Children," dated June 15, 2012.*

### **Financial Services and General Government Appropriations**

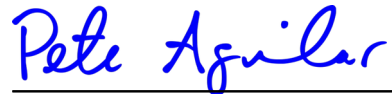
*or (5) is a person who is authorized to be employed in the United States pursuant to the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program established under the memorandum of the Secretary of Homeland Security dated June 15, 2012.*

Thank you for your consideration of these requests as you work on upcoming FY23 appropriations legislation.

Sincerely,



Bradley Scott Schneider  
Member of Congress



Pete Aguilar  
Member of Congress



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Lucille Roybal-Allard  
Member of Congress



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Diana DeGette  
Member of Congress



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Emanuel Cleaver, II  
Member of Congress



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Joaquin Castro  
Member of Congress



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Earl Blumenauer  
Member of Congress



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Ruben Gallego  
Member of Congress



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Dwight Evans  
Member of Congress



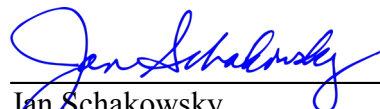
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Jamaal Bowman, Ed.D.  
Member of Congress



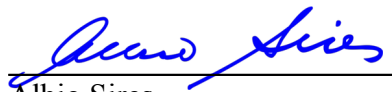
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J. Luis Correa  
Member of Congress

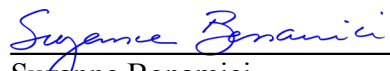


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Jan Schakowsky  
Member of Congress



Albio Sires  
Member of Congress



Suzanne Bonamici  
Member of Congress



Eddie Bernice Johnson  
Member of Congress



Danny K. Davis  
Member of Congress



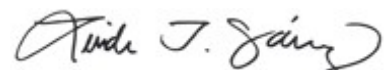
Jesús G. "Chuy" García  
Member of Congress



Eleanor Holmes Norton  
Member of Congress



Robin L. Kelly  
Member of Congress



Linda T. Sánchez  
Member of Congress



Frederica S. Wilson  
Member of Congress



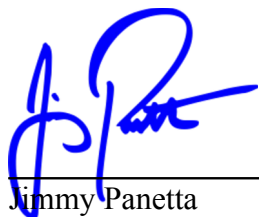
Pramila Jayapal  
Member of Congress



Juan Vargas  
Member of Congress



Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez  
Member of Congress



Jimmy Panetta  
Member of Congress



Nanette Diaz Barragan  
Member of Congress



Greg Stanton  
Member of Congress



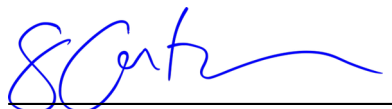
Alan Lowenthal  
Member of Congress



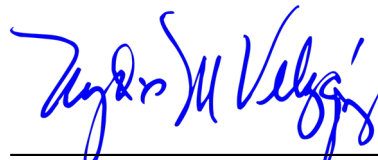
Mark DeSaulnier  
Member of Congress



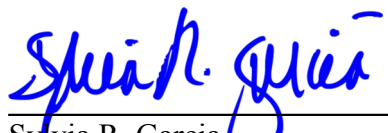
Tony Cardenas  
Member of Congress



Sean Casten  
Member of Congress



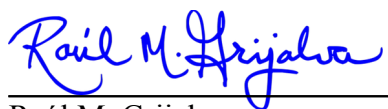
Nydia M. Velazquez  
Member of Congress



Sylvia R. Garcia  
Member of Congress



James P. McGovern  
Member of Congress



Raúl M. Grijalva  
Member of Congress



Zoe Lofgren  
Member of Congress



Cheri Bustos  
Member of Congress



Marie Newman  
Member of Congress



Lisa Blunt Rochester  
Member of Congress



Sara Jacobs  
Member of Congress



Sheila Jackson Lee  
Member of Congress

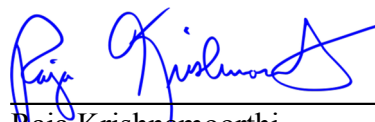


Josh Gottheimer  
Member of Congress



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Rick Larsen  
Member of Congress



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Raja Krishnamoorthi  
Member of Congress



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Jason Crow  
Member of Congress



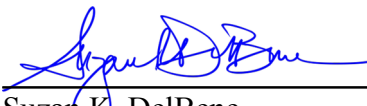
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Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.  
Member of Congress



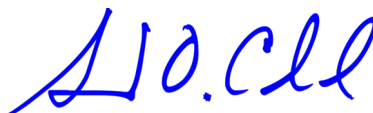
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Ayanna Pressley  
Member of Congress



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Suzan K. DelBene  
Member of Congress



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Salud Carbajal  
Member of Congress



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Rashida Tlaib  
Member of Congress



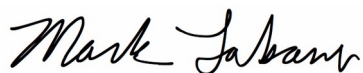
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Dina Titus  
Member of Congress



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Seth Moulton  
Member of Congress



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MARK TAKANO  
Member of Congress



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Barbara Lee  
Member of Congress



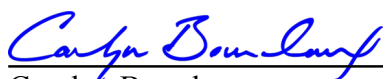
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Veronica Escobar  
Member of Congress



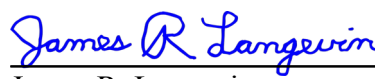
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Bobby L. Rush  
Member of Congress



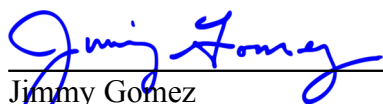
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Carolyn Bourdeaux  
Member of Congress



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James R. Langevin  
Member of Congress



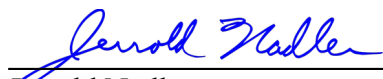
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Jimmy Gomez  
Member of Congress



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Adam B. Schiff  
Member of Congress



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Jerrold Nadler  
Member of Congress



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Karen Bass  
Member of Congress





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Scott H. Peters  
Member of Congress



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André Carson  
Member of Congress



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Darren Soto  
Member of Congress



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Carolyn B. Maloney  
Member of Congress



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Bill Foster  
Member of Congress



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Peter Welch  
Member of Congress



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Marilyn Strickland  
Member of Congress



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Lizzie Fletcher  
Member of Congress



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Robert C. "Bobby" Scott  
Member of Congress



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Ted W. Lieu  
Member of Congress