

President Trump announced on September 5<sup>th</sup> that he was terminating the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program and leaving it up to Congress to find a solution. The solution in Congress that is being supported by the US Catholic Bishops is the DREAM Act (Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors Act). This legislation would allow Dreamers, those who were brought to the US as children by their parents before 2012 and have met a variety of government requirements including paying fees and passing background checks, to fully legalize their status and continue to work and go to school in the United States as they work towards eventual US citizenship.

It has come to my attention that **Representative David Joyce may be in favor of supporting this Act, but would like our support to do. Please consider sending the attached letter to Representative Joyce so that he will feel empowered to support the DREAM Act on the House floor. We need as many people as possible to write to Rep. Joyce, so please consider printing these letters for your whole parish or community to sign.**

You may send this letter several ways:

- 1) Collect the printed and signed letters from your community and get them to me before October 6<sup>th</sup>. I will be delivering a stack of signed letters to Rep. Joyce's office on October 8<sup>th</sup>. You can drop them off at the CPL front desk (28700 Euclid Ave. Wickliffe) at any time.
- 2) Print and mail the letters directly to Rep. Joyce:  
Representative David Joyce  
1124 Longworth HOB  
Washington, DC 20515
- 3) Copy the letter into an email and email Rep. Joyce at <https://joyce.house.gov/email-me/>  
\*To email Representative Joyce you will need to live in the 14<sup>th</sup> Congressional District and know your zip code with 4 digit extension. You can find your zip code HERE. For example the address with area code for the building in which I work is 28700 Euclid Ave. Wickliffe, OH 44092-2527.

[Date]

Representative David Joyce  
1 Victoria Place  
Room 320  
Painesville, OH 44077

Dear Representative Joyce:

As your constituent and a person of faith I stand with the US Catholic Bishops to urge you to support the DREAM Act and the 800,000 dreamers across the country who depend on its protection.

Recently the President rescinded the DACA program, putting many of our young neighbors at risk of deportation from the U.S. – the only country many have ever known. The U.S. Catholic Bishops have long supported DACA youth and continue to do so, including the DREAM Act of 2017. As Bishop Joe S. Vásquez, Chair of the USCCB Migration Committee and Bishop of Austin, Texas noted: “DACA youth are contributors to our economy, veterans of our military, academic standouts in our universities, and leaders in our parishes.” He continues, “At the heart of Catholic Social Teaching is the moral obligation to protect the life and dignity of every human being, particularly the most vulnerable, which includes our youth. These young people were brought to the United States by their parents whose desire was to provide their children with hope, opportunity, and safety that they could never hope to find in their countries of birth.”

Catholic Charities, Diocese of Cleveland has had the privilege of working with many immigrant families helping them become integral and vibrant members of our NE Ohio community. This includes over 50 DACA eligible young people who are bright, energetic, and eager to pursue their education and reach their full potential. They call our country home, and have been investing in their future and in the future of our country.

We believe that ending DACA would be morally reprehensible, denying hundreds of thousands of young people the chance to integrate and thrive. Our immigrant brothers and sisters have placed their faith in our government and deserve dignity, welcome, and the opportunity to flourish. It is important that Congress pass legislation that protects these young people who are vital part of our community.

Please stand with us as we support DREAM Act and our neighbors that it protects. Thank you for your public service and your consideration of this request.

With appreciation,  
[*your signature and contact information*]