

## COALITION *for the* AMERICAN DREAM

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### Leading Business Coalition Praises House for Vote to Protect Dreamers *Calls on Both Parties to Come Together in Support of Bipartisan Path Forward*

WASHINGTON D.C. – The Coalition for the American Dream, which represents many of the nation’s top businesses, trade associations and other organizations, today praised the House of Representatives for passing the *American Dream and Promise Act of 2019* (H.R. 6). This long overdue legislation would provide a legal path forward for the nation’s nearly 700,000 Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program recipients, known as Dreamers, who play a significant role in the American economy and for thousands of U.S. businesses. The Coalition cautioned, however, that both parties must come together and find a bipartisan solution forward that can pass both chambers of Congress and that a failure to act by Congress could cause significant harm to the U.S. economy.

“On behalf of the thousands of U.S. business owners and job creators who employ Dreamers and recognize the invaluable role they play in our communities and our economy, we commend the House for its leadership in passing the *American Dream and Promise Act of 2019*. DACA recipients contribute billions of dollars to the GDP; they pay federal, state, and local taxes; they work at our companies, teach our children in school, and serve in our military. These are just some of the many reasons why an overwhelming majority of Americans of all political stripes - upward of 90% - agree that Congress should protect Dreamers from deportation and provide them with a legal path forward.

“Now that the House has acted, it is critical for both parties to come together and identify a bipartisan path forward that can provide legal certainty for Dreamers, institute responsible border security enhancements, and avoid significant disruptions in the American workforce and economy.

“The consequences of inaction are serious and America’s job creators are counting on the full Congress to act this year.”

#### Background:

- A new nationwide poll released just this past week by the Global Strategy Group (GSG) reaffirmed that voters nationwide and across party lines are resoundingly in favor of protecting Dreamers. [Click here to see the full poll results](#) and a new GSG memo which noted: “*Support for this proposal is strong and resilient, with voters continuing to support*

*the proposal by an overwhelming margin even after they are exposed to a series of negative messages against the idea.”*

- Earlier this year, the Coalition [sent a letter](#) to House and Senate leaders in both parties urging action on Dreamers and published it as a [full-page ad in the New York Times](#). Among those who signed it were the CEO’s for some of the country’s biggest companies including Walmart, General Motors, Amazon, IBM, Marriott, Coca-Cola, Apple, Johnson & Johnson, Facebook, Target, Microsoft, Best Buy, Verizon, Google and many others. Additional signatories were the chief executives of some of the country’s biggest trade associations that collectively represent thousands of American businesses, including the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, National Retail Federation, National Association of Manufacturers and the American Hotel & Lodging Association.
- Dreamers directly contribute to the success of numerous U.S. companies. At least 72 percent of the top 25 Fortune 500 companies employ Dreamers—including IBM, Walmart, Apple, General Motors, Amazon, JPMorgan Chase, Home Depot, Wells Fargo, among others. Those companies alone generate almost \$3 trillion in annual revenue.
- Failing to address this issue and removing over 700,000 Dreamers from the workforce virtually overnight would inflict serious harm on U.S. companies, all workers, and the American economy as a whole. In fact, studies show that our economy could [lose](#) \$350 billion in GDP, and the federal government could lose \$90 billion in tax revenue.
- Further, a study by the conservative-leaning American Action Forum (AAF) found that physically removing all Dreamers would cost between \$7 billion and \$21 billion and reduce U.S. GDP by 0.4 percent.

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