

# BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

January 26, 2018

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[www.marincounty.org/bos](http://www.marincounty.org/bos)

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein  
United States Senate  
331 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Jared Huffman  
United States Congress  
1406 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kamala Harris  
United States Senate  
112 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

## Re: Support for Deferred Action on Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Program

Dear Senator Feinstein, Senator Harris and Congressman Huffman:

On behalf of the Marin County Board of Supervisors, I write in strong support of your efforts to protect California residents who have benefitted from the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, which defers action on minors who entered the country as children. Marin County is estimated to have some 1,500-2,000 such residents. We were greatly alarmed by President Trump's decision to phase out the program last September, and are even further disappointed at the inability of the President and the majority in Congress to agree to permanent protections for the Dreamers.

We recognize the positive roles our DACA residents play in our communities and families and value their contributions to our schools, workplaces, and economic prosperity as a nation. Since June 2012, nearly 800,000 of these young people who came to the United States as children have come forward, passed background checks, and received permission to live and work in America – nearly 225,000 in California alone. With DACA, they have advanced their education, started businesses, and more fully established themselves as integral members of our society. Ending DACA would mean that all of these young people would be at risk of deportation and separation from their families and our communities, which we believe would be senselessly cruel. Aside from the inhumanity of this action, the exclusion of these productive young residents would result in the loss of an estimated \$11 billion from California's economy.


Beyond economics, one of the most damaging effects of ending DACA is the loss of trust between immigrants and the public agencies that ensure all of our safety and health. If, fearing deportation, Dreamers no longer feel they can reach out for help from

police, health care providers, schools and other public agencies, we invite harm to our broader health and social safety nets that rely on access to services for all. Untreated illnesses can spread sickness and injury to many, as happened with recent outbreaks of tuberculosis, influenza and measles. This not only undermines the health and wellbeing of undocumented persons, it limits the ability of public agencies to provide effective services to everyone.

We applaud your attention to this issue and strongly encourage your continued efforts with President Trump and members of Congress to enact legislation as soon as possible that will replace fear and uncertainty with permanent protection for our Dreamers.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Connolly". The signature is stylized and written in a cursive-like font.

Damon Connolly  
President, Marin County Board of Supervisors

cc: The Honorable Edmund G. Brown, Jr.  
The Honorable Senator Mike McGuire  
The Honorable Assembly Member Marc Levine