



Colorado Immigrant Rights Coalition

Dream Act

State of Play and Key Moments to Call Feb - Mar 2018

Undocumented immigrant youth are out of time. **Congress MUST include the DREAM Act in the FY 18 omnibus appropriations bill in March.** These negotiations are already underway and may be completed by March 23rd, giving Congress one last chance to do what's right and vote for a permanent solution for Dreamers.

In January, Congressional leaders agreed to a two-year spending caps deal that allows the omnibus, or supplemental budget discussions, to begin to finalize the budget for 2018.

If the omnibus is not finished in time for the next CR deadline of March 23rd, another continuing resolution must pass in order to keep the government functioning. These **budget negotiations provide another opportunity to repeat the call for inclusion of the DREAM Act** on any must pass budget bill. And to call out Members of Congress to do the right thing and use their leverage and vote to fight for a permanent solution for dreamers.

In addition, we know an increase for DHS funding, including for immigration enforcement, will be a part of these budget negotiations.

We must reiterate our red lines to Members of Congress. :

- no boots
 - no beds
 - no wall
-

What we need is the Dream Act Now.

Asks for Congress:

- **The House must vote on Hurd-Aguilar immediately.** It includes the DREAM Act and smart border provisions. Republicans who have called for a solution for immigrant youth should cosponsor this legislation and push their leadership to bring it up for a vote.
- **Include the DREAM Act in any must-pass spending bill.** The DREAM Act has bipartisan support in Congress, as well as from the majority of Americans. Politically, morally and practically it is a no-brainer. Congress should get it done and get it done now.
- **Reject increases to funding for DHS and enforcement efforts in the omnibus.** #NotOneDollar. During these negotiations, legislators will discuss funding for federal agencies, including the Department of Homeland Security and additional funding for enforcement will surely be on the table. This means more money for Trump's deportation machine, more detention and family separation.

We know migration is at a net zero, making the need for more enforcement a made up fight in Trump's racist, anti-immigrant agenda. These requests are unacceptable and Members of Congress should reject them.

Areas of increased funding that we reject:

- Trump's costly and pointless border wall
- Increases in Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) and Immigration and Customs Enforcement enforcement (ICE)
- Increases to detention beds
- **Demand action from Congressional leadership.** Democrats and Republicans alike should be weighing in with their leadership to demand inclusion of the DREAM Act in the omnibus.
- **Reject anti-immigrant legislation in the House** that seeks to pair a solution for DREAMers with dangerous policies that would make cuts to legal migration and put our communities in further danger.

On Temporary Solutions for Immigrant Youth

- This is a crisis of GOP making. Trump killed DACA and immigrant youth cannot wait any longer for a solution. A partial fix or a “patch”, like the one in the Flake-Thune proposal is unacceptable. We need a permanent solution for DREAMers now.

On 2018

- **We will hold all of our Members of Congress accountable today and in the future, especially in November.** During recent elections, our message was heard loud and clear in Virginia, New Jersey and Alabama. We will make sure that those Members who have failed to defend our communities feel our pain in the ballot boxes.