

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

February 19, 2019

The Honorable Kirstjen M. Nielsen  
Secretary of Homeland Security  
Washington, D.C. 20528

Dear Secretary Nielsen:

In light of federal court injunctions that have upheld the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, we request that the Department of Homeland Security once again accept and approve advance parole requests from DACA recipients.

In response to previous Congressional inquiries, DHS has stated that it cannot comment on this policy due to pending litigation. Meanwhile, thousands of DACA recipients remain unable to travel outside the United States while a court decision is not expected for a year or more. We ask that you reconsider in light of the significant hardship inflicted on DACA recipients denied advance parole.

As you know, DACA recipients have used advance parole to travel outside the United States in the case of family emergencies, as well as for educational programs.

Student DACA recipients from California and across the country have participated in the California-Mexico Studies Center (CSMC) Dreamers' Study Abroad program, which originated at California State University, Long Beach. This first-of-its-kind program helps build ties between institutions of higher education in both countries and immerses students in Mexican culture.

For over a year, the rejection of advance parole applications from DACA recipients has halted this important program. Even more troubling, the Department's policy has barred DACA recipients from traveling to visit family in a time of need, including the death of a close relative. While the court injunctions have allowed DACA recipients to apply for renewal of their status, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services will not accept and approve advance parole requests from these individuals.

We firmly believe that USCIS should accept these requests, and urge you to restore advance parole for DACA recipients for humanitarian, labor, and educational purposes as provided under the June 2012 DACA Memorandum.

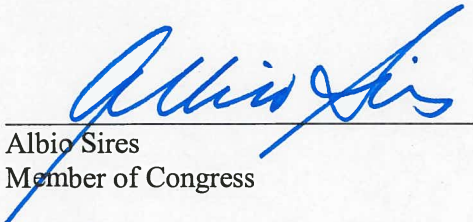
Thank you for your attention, and please do not hesitate to contact us if we can provide additional information.

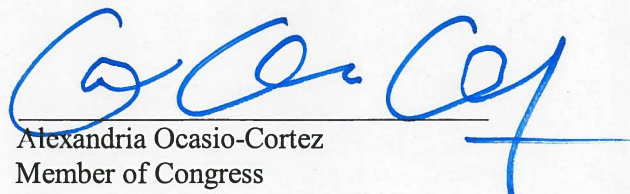
Sincerely,

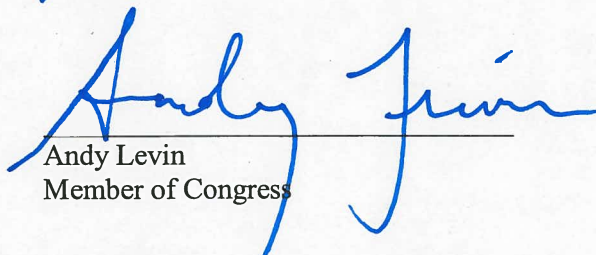


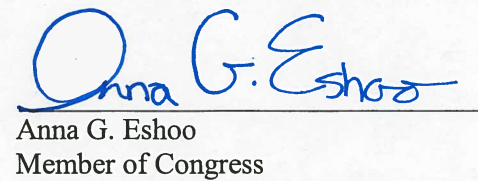
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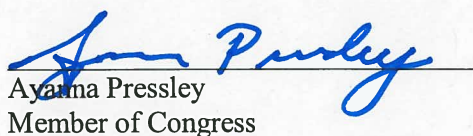
Alan Lowenthal  
Member of Congress

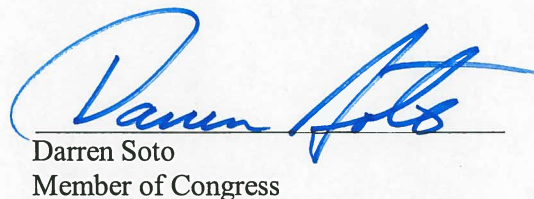
  
Albio Sires  
Member of Congress

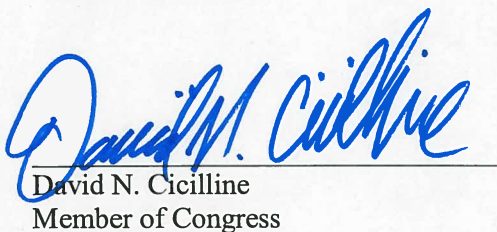
  
Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez  
Member of Congress

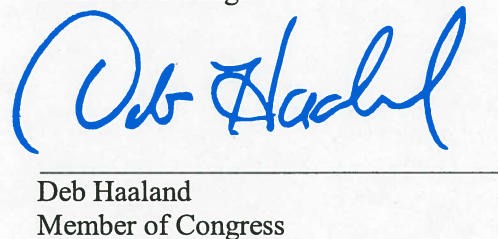
  
Andy Levin  
Member of Congress

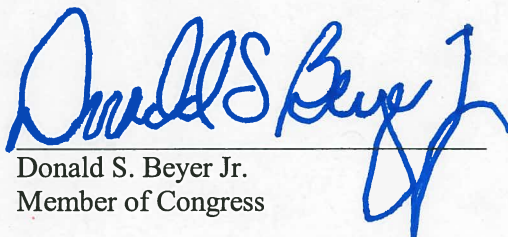
  
Anna G. Eshoo  
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Ayanna Pressley  
Member of Congress

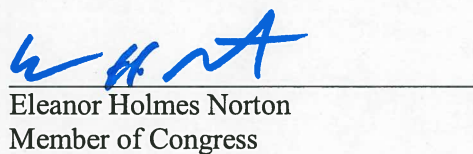
  
Darren Soto  
Member of Congress

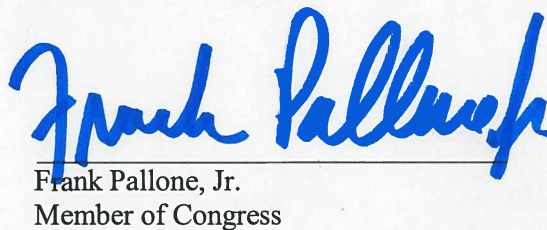
  
David N. Cicilline  
Member of Congress

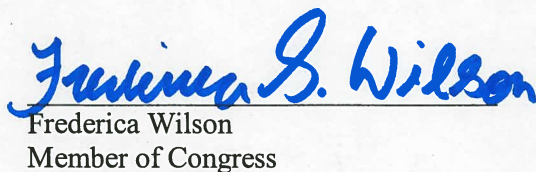
  
Deb Haaland  
Member of Congress

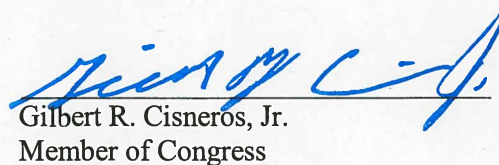
  
Donald S. Beyer Jr.  
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Doris Matsui  
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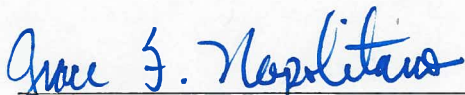
  
Eleanor Holmes Norton  
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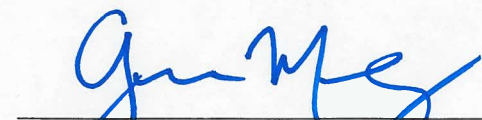
  
Frank Pallone, Jr.  
Member of Congress


  
Frederica Wilson  
Member of Congress

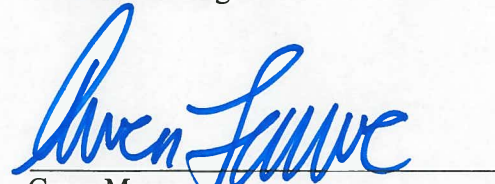
  
Gilbert R. Cisneros, Jr.  
Member of Congress




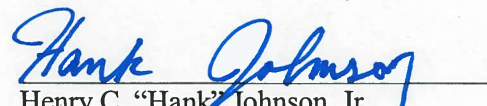
  
Grace F. Napolitano  
Member of Congress


  
Grace Meng  
Member of Congress

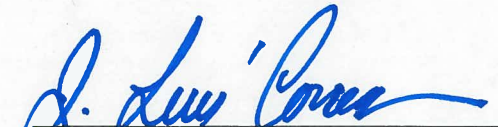
  
Gregory Meeks  
Member of Congress

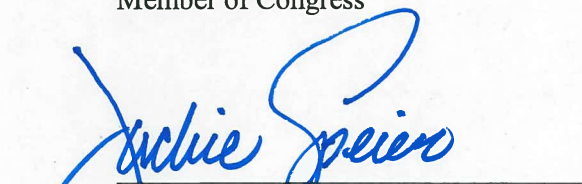
  
Gwen Moore  
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Harley Rouda  
Member of Congress


  
Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.  
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Ilhan Omar  
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J. Luis Correa  
Member of Congress

  
Jackie Speier  
Member of Congress

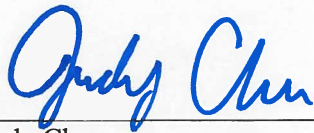
  
Jamie Raskin  
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Jan Schakowsky  
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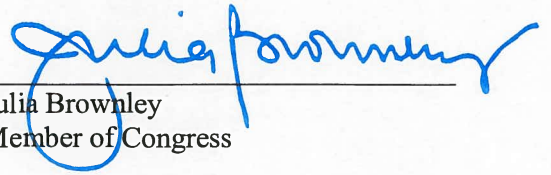
  
Jared Huffman  
Member of Congress

  
Jimmy Gomez  
Member of Congress

  
John Garamendi  
Member of Congress



Judy Chu  
Member of Congress



Julia Brownley  
Member of Congress



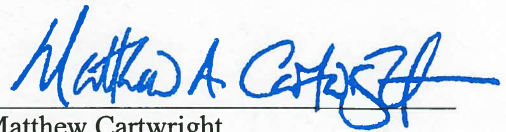
Katie Porter  
Member of Congress



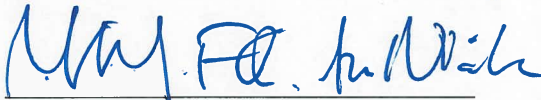
Linda T. Sánchez  
Member of Congress



Mark Takano  
Member of Congress



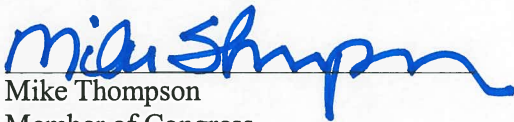
Matthew Cartwright  
Member of Congress



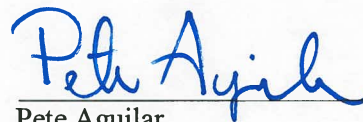
Michael F.Q. San Nicolas  
Member of Congress



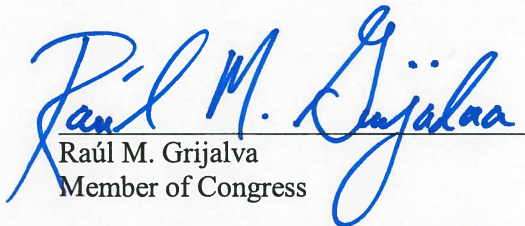
Mike Levin  
Member of Congress



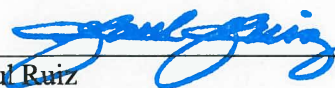
Mike Thompson  
Member of Congress



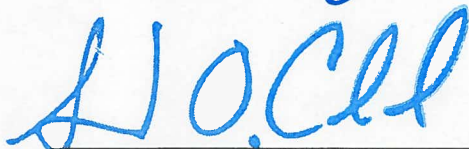
Pete Aguilar  
Member of Congress



Raúl M. Grijalva  
Member of Congress



Raul Ruiz  
Member of Congress



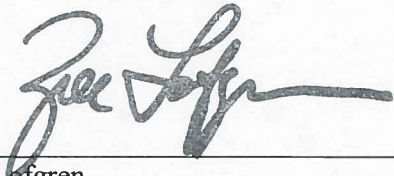
Salud Carbajal  
Member of Congress



Scott Peters  
Member of Congress



Ted W. Lieu  
Member of Congress



Zoe Lofgren  
Member of Congress



Tony Cardenas  
Member of Congress