

Oregon Council of Presidents



September 20, 2017

The Honorable Ron Wyden
911 NE 11th Ave, Suite 630
Portland, OR 97232

The Honorable Jeff Merkley
121 SW Salmon, Suite 1400
Portland, OR 97204

The Honorable Peter DeFazio
405 East 8th Ave., Suite 2030
Eugene, OR 97401

The Honorable Earl Blumenauer
911 NE 11th Ave, Suite 200
Portland, OR 97232

The Honorable Greg Walden
14 N. Central Ave., Suite 112
Medford, OR 97501

The Honorable Kurt Schrader
621 High Street
Oregon City, OR 97045

The Honorable Suzanne Bonamici
12725 SW Millikan Way, Suite 220
Beaverton, OR 97005

Dear Senators Wyden and Merkley, Representatives DeFazio, Blumenauer, Walden, Schrader, and Bonamici:

Oregon's public university presidents strongly oppose the unfortunate decision to end DACA--the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals--program. DACA's repeal is a broken promise that must be corrected for the benefit of not only the livelihood and future of these individuals, but the enrichment of our universities, state, society, and economy. Congress has shown a bipartisan willingness to support DREAMers and multiple solutions are currently pending in Congress to address this problem. The public university presidents urge Congress to take immediate action to remedy this decision by the administration.

DACA was implemented in 2012 to allow undocumented youth a semblance of protection while in the United States and these children were brought to the U.S. by parents or relatives prior to their own age of consent. They have grown up in America, attended American schools, and are loyal, hard-working young people contributing to the health and well-being of Americans.

DACA imposes rigorous requirements--including a \$500 fee every two years--for permits to remain in the United States as long as the recipient is working, attending a college or university, or serving in the Armed Forces. DACA recipients find themselves in the United States through no voluntary act of their own and, in many instances, could be torn from lives they have created and deported to countries of which they have no recognizable memory.

We urge you to act swiftly to ensure continued access to DACA protections for eligible individuals and avoid undue disruption in their lives. Please let us know if we can be of assistance in this important endeavor.

Sincerely,



Thomas Insko
President, Eastern Oregon
University



Michael Schill
President, University of Oregon



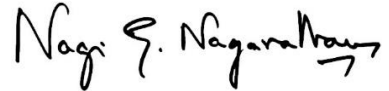
Rex Fuller
President, Western Oregon
University



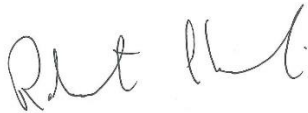
Edward Ray
President, Oregon State
University



Linda Schott
President, Southern Oregon
University



Nagi Naganathan
President, Oregon Institute of
Technology



Rahmat Shoureshi
President, Portland State
University



Dr. Joe Robertson
President, Oregon Health &
Science University

Cc: State Staff of Congressional Representatives