

Date: June 18, 2020

The Center for Family Representation's Statement in Support of Today's Supreme Court Decision to Block the President's Decision to End Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)

The Center for Family Representation ("CFR") stands in solidarity with the hundred of thousands of immigrants—better known as "Dreamers"—who were brought to the United States at a young age and who met all the rigorous criteria set forth by the Department of Homeland Security ("DHS") in order to obtain Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals ("DACA"). We applaud the United States Supreme Court's majority for ruling today that this Administration's 2017 decision to dismantle the DACA program was arbitrary and capricious, and therefore could not stand. That decision was the right one.

Since 2012, in the absence of a path to legalization, DACA has provided critical opportunities and stability for an estimated 800,000 young immigrants by affording them protection from deportation and employment authorization. These individuals are our co-workers, neighbors, community members, friends, and family.

We are grateful to live and practice in a city that has spoken out in support of immigrants, generally, and DACA recipients, specifically. Furthermore, New York City and State has shown staunch support of immigrants and DACA recipients by making sizable financial, social, and programmatic contributions. Still, we, our city, our representatives in local, state, and federal government must do more.

As an organization committed to defending the rights of families at the intersection of multiple legal systems that tear families and communities apart, we stand with our immigrant communities. Everyday we fight to avoid the unnecessary and unjust separation of families by the hands of the child welfare system. Approximately one third of CFR's clients are immigrants, including individuals whose children or themselves have DACA. Like the family and criminal court systems, the immigration enforcement system is yet another mechanism for disenfranchising vulnerable members of our society, by separating families or creating seemingly insurmountable obstacles to attaining immigration benefits.

Once again, we applaud today's Supreme Court decision. We now call on DHS to resume accepting new initial DACA applications (not just renewals). Finally, while reinstating DACA was a step in the right direction, we now urge the Senate to take up H.R. 6—the American Dream and Promise Act of 2019—a bill passed by the House of Representatives to provide a path to citizenship to DACA recipients.

Center for Family Representation