

## THE AMERICAN DREAM AND PROMISE ACT OF 2019 (H.R.6), DREAM ACT OF 2019 (S.874), AND SECURE ACT (S.879)

### Rescinding Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), Temporary Protected Status (TPS), and Deferred Enforced Departure (DED) Protections Hurts Immigrant Families and the U.S.

- Rescission of DACA is a grave injustice to youth who were guaranteed safety and security within our borders, and will have a significant negative impact on the U.S. economy:
  - DACA recipients have passed rigorous background checks and shared extensive personal information about where they live, work, and go to school.
  - Despite assurances that personal information would not be used by immigration enforcement agencies, the federal government is now poised to use that same data to deport DACA recipients.
  - 97% of DACA recipients are currently employed or enrolled in school.<sup>i</sup>
  - 72% of the top 25 Fortune 500 companies employ DACA recipients.<sup>ii</sup>
  - DACA beneficiaries will contribute \$460.3 billion to the U.S. gross domestic product over the next decade.<sup>iii</sup>
- Deportation of TPS and DED holders will have a significant negative impact on the U.S. economy:
  - 80% of TPS holders are employed.<sup>iv</sup>
  - 27,000 TPS holders are business owners, creating jobs for themselves and other U.S. workers.<sup>v</sup>
  - TPS holders will contribute \$45-164 billion to the U.S. gross domestic product over the next decade,<sup>vi</sup> and \$6.9 billion to Social Security and Medicare.<sup>vii</sup>
- There is broad consensus that a legislative solution must be passed to protect the immigrant youth community from deportation:
  - 76% of voters think that undocumented individuals who were brought to the U.S. as children should be allowed to stay in the United States.<sup>viii</sup>

### What the American DREAM and Promise Act of 2019 and the DREAM Act of 2019 Would Do for Undocumented Youth

- Ensure fairness, keep families together, and relieve the tremendous stress and undue trauma that undocumented youth now face:
  - Provide a permanent fix, ending a long period of undue trauma and uncertainty in the lives of undocumented youth.
  - Be inclusive, setting eligibility requirements that the majority of undocumented youth can meet, including education, “work track,” and military service eligibility options.
  - Stop the removal proceedings of any person meeting the Acts’ requirements, as well as for children over the age of 5 years old who are enrolled in school.
  - Improve access and affordability for undocumented youth by changing the rules that prohibit their access to in-state tuition and college loans.

## What the American DREAM and Promise Act of 2019 and the SECURE Act Would Do for TPS Holders and DED Recipients

- Provide a path forward to Lawful Permanent Resident (LPR) status for TPS and DED Recipients.
- Protect TPS holders and TPS-eligible individuals from El Salvador, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Nepal, Nicaragua, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Sudan, Syria, and Yemen, and DED recipients from Liberia.
- Cancel deportation proceedings for TPS holders and DED recipients if they are eligible for LPR status under the Acts.
- Permit TPS holders and TPS-eligible individuals who were deported or who voluntarily departed the U.S. on or after September 26, 2016, and DED recipients who were deported or voluntarily departed on or after September 28, 2016 to apply for LPR status if they meet certain requirements.

### DACA, TPS and DED

- **Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA):** Established in 2012, DACA is a discretionary program that has allowed over 800,000 undocumented immigrant youth who were brought to this country as children to be protected from deportation from the only home they have ever known, become eligible for work and military service, start small businesses, and contribute to their families and communities in positive ways. Almost all DACA recipients are people of color.<sup>ix</sup> The Administration rescinded the DACA program in September 2017.
- **Temporary Protected Status (TPS):** A congressionally approved statutory provision that provides temporary protection to foreign nationals in the United States from countries experiencing armed conflict, natural disaster, or other extraordinary circumstances that prevent their safe return. The Administration has moved to end TPS status for individuals from El Salvador, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Nepal, Nicaragua, and Sierra Leone.<sup>x</sup>
- **Deferred Enforced Departure (DED):** A temporary, discretionary, administrative stay of removal granted to individuals from designated countries. Currently, Liberia is the only country designated by the president for DED status.<sup>xi</sup>
- Over 300,000 TPS and DED holders are at risk of deportation over the next two years.

**YWCA urges Congress to support immediate passage of the American DREAM and Promise Act of 2019 (H.R.6), DREAM Act of 2019 (S.874), and SECURE Act (S.879), and to protect immigrant communities from harmful immigration enforcement legislation.**

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<sup>i</sup>Ibid.

<sup>ii</sup>Ibid.

<sup>iii</sup>Ibid.

<sup>iv</sup> Center for Migration Studies, <http://cmsny.org/publications/jmhs-tps-elsalvador-honduras-haiti/>.

<sup>v</sup>Ibid.

<sup>vi</sup> Center for American Progress, <https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/immigration/news/2017/10/20/440400/tps-holders-are-integral-members-of-the-u-s-economy-and-society/>.

<sup>vii</sup> Immigrant Legal Resource Center, [https://www.ilrc.org/sites/default/files/resources/2017-04-18\\_economic\\_contributions\\_by\\_salvadoran\\_honduran\\_and\\_haitian\\_tps HOLDERS.pdf](https://www.ilrc.org/sites/default/files/resources/2017-04-18_economic_contributions_by_salvadoran_honduran_and_haitian_tps HOLDERS.pdf).

<sup>viii</sup> Shepard, S. (2017, September 05). Poll: Majority opposes deporting Dreamers. Retrieved September 29, 2017, from <http://www.politico.com/story/2017/09/05/poll-trump-deporting-daca-dreamers-242343>.

<sup>ix</sup> Tom K. Wong, Greisa Martinez Rosas, Adam Luna, Henry Manning, Adrian Reyna, Patrick O'Shea, Tom Jawetz, and Philip E. Wolgin. (2017, August 28). DACA Recipients' Economic and Educational Gains Continue to Grow. Retrieved September 29, 2017, from <https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/immigration/news/2017/08/28/437956/daca-recipients-economic-educational-gains-continue-grow/>.

<sup>x</sup> Catholic Legal Immigration Network. Inc., <https://cliniclegal.org/tps>.

<sup>xi</sup> Congressional Research Service. (2018, October 10). Temporary Protected Status: Overview and Current Issues. [https://www.everycrsreport.com/files/20181010\\_RS20844\\_9fda549df539d8fcfb32f381133838fbb08cc46d.pdf](https://www.everycrsreport.com/files/20181010_RS20844_9fda549df539d8fcfb32f381133838fbb08cc46d.pdf).