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December 15, 2017

The Honorable Scott Taylor  
U.S. House of Representatives  
412 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Dan Newhouse  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1318 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Taylor and Representative Newhouse,

On behalf of the undersigned higher education associations, we write to thank you and the co-signers for your Dec. 5 letter to Speaker Ryan asking that Congress pass a permanent legislative solution for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients before the end of the year. We applaud your leadership on this issue and urge you to continue to work toward the action that President Trump requested when he rescinded the DACA policy: approve a long-term legislative fix as soon as possible to protect Dreamers, those outstanding young people brought to our country as children. We would be pleased to work with you on this effort.

Colleges and universities have seen these remarkable individuals up close, in our classrooms and as our colleagues and friends. Despite the challenges they face, they have made incredible contributions to our country and its economy and security. They should continue to be able to do so. If we are unable to protect these Dreamers, we will be shutting the door to an entire generation of individuals who seek to contribute their best to America.

On Oct. 19, 2017, we sent a letter signed by over 800 college and university presidents and chancellors to leaders of Congress urging action on this issue as soon as possible. In that letter, we noted that the Dreamers, who were brought to the United States at a young age, did not have a choice in the matter and are today Americans in every way but immigration status. It remains in America's best interest to enable them to use their knowledge, skills, and energy to continue to make the strongest possible contribution to our country.

The longer Congress takes to act, the harder it becomes for these individuals to continue their studies, work at their jobs, or serve in the military. For both practical and humanitarian reasons, Congress should act promptly to address this issue, and certainly well before the March 5, 2018, deadline. In order to do that, we ask that you consider a long-term solution for Dreamers as you work to finalize the FY 2018 appropriations process. We stand ready to support and help you and your congressional colleagues address this issue in a bipartisan manner.

Sincerely,

Ted Mitchell  
President

On behalf of:

ACPA—College Student Educators International  
American Association of Colleges of Nursing  
American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admission Officers  
American Association of Community Colleges  
American Association of State Colleges and Universities  
American Association of University Professors  
American Council on Education  
American Indian Higher Education Consortium  
Association of American Colleges and Universities  
Association of American Law Schools  
Association of American Medical Colleges  
Association of American Universities  
Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities  
Association of Community College Trustees  
Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges  
Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities  
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities  
Association of Research Libraries  
College and University Professional Association for Human Resources  
Consortium of Universities of the Washington Metropolitan Area  
Council for Advancement and Support of Education  
Council for Christian Colleges & Universities  
Council of Graduate Schools  
Council of Independent Colleges  
EDUCAUSE  
Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities  
NASPA-Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education  
National Association for College Admission Counseling  
National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education  
National Association of College and University Business Officers  
National Association of Colleges and Employers  
National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities  
National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators  
National Association of System Heads  
National Council for Community and Education Partnerships  
Thurgood Marshall College Fund  
UNCF

Cc: The Honorable Mia Love  
The Honorable Mark Amodei  
The Honorable David G. Valadao  
The Honorable Dave Reichert  
The Honorable Brian Fitzpatrick  
The Honorable Mike Coffman  
The Honorable Charlie Dent  
The Honorable Frank A. LoBiondo  
The Honorable Peter T. King  
The Honorable Carlos Curbelo

The Honorable Ileana Ros-Lehtinen  
The Honorable Ryan A. Costello  
The Honorable Fred Upton  
The Honorable Jeff Denham  
The Honorable Rodney Davis  
The Honorable John J. Faso  
The Honorable John Katko  
The Honorable Chris Stewart  
The Honorable Susan W. Brooks  
The Honorable Adam Kinzinger  
The Honorable Glenn “GT” Thompson  
The Honorable Mike Simpson  
The Honorable Mimi Walters  
The Honorable Leonard Lance  
The Honorable Pat Meehan  
The Honorable Elise Stefanik  
The Honorable Tom MacArthur  
The Honorable Chris Smith  
The Honorable Jenniffer González-Colón  
The Honorable Joe Barton  
The Honorable Will Hurd  
The Honorable Bruce Poliquin