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September 1, 2017

President Donald J. Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Trump,

We strongly urge you to continue the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program which is providing temporary immigration relief to over 800,000 people, many of whom were brought to the United States as children and who have loved and called no other country home.

Out of the 11 million immigrants that call California home, nearly 2 million are college educated. Losing and even underutilizing these college educated workers poses a threat for California's workforce and economy as the state is already poised to be 2.4 million college educated workers short by 2030.

DACA students have been raised in our communities, taught in our public schools, and abided by our laws. The time, energy, and money that has been invested into these students would be a huge economic loss for our state both in resources lost and in contributions they could be making to our communities. Let's not waste our investment and instead benefit from the fruits of our labor by keeping these students here to work, to participate, and to thrive.

Undocumented immigrants in California paid \$2.2 billion in state and local taxes in 2010, including \$1.8 billion in sales taxes, \$152.1 million in state income taxes, and \$302.8 million in property taxes. California's undocumented workforce has also contributed \$130 billion annually to its gross domestic product. Given these numbers, we cannot deny the vitality of this populace to our great state.

Ending DACA means families will be torn apart, our economy will suffer, bright young minds in our colleges and universities will face unfair uncertainty about their future and California will be further away from meeting the demands for a more educated workforce.

Our country was founded on immigrant dreams and immigrants have been critical to the success of our democracy and economy. We urge you to stand with our DACA students because they make our country great.

Sincerely,

Michele Siqueiros
President