



CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO IMMIGRANT RIGHTS COMMISSION

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STATEMENT OF THE SAN FRANCISCO IMMIGRANT RIGHTS COMMISSION ON DEFERRED ACTION FOR CHILDHOOD ARRIVALS (DACA)

Monday, September 4, 2017

There is little disagreement that young immigrants brought to the United States when they were children are innocent participants in a broken immigration system that Congress has been unable to fix. Just a few months ago, the new president told our young immigrants and DACA holders that they “shouldn’t be very worried” because he has a big heart. But actions prove otherwise as come tomorrow, the White House is expected to announce the ending of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, a temporary shelter in the storm for nearly 800,000 young immigrants who entered the country as children and were granted a temporary reprieve from deportation so they could do what many American youth take for granted— exercising the right to learn, work and be safe.

Delay or not, going back on your word as leader of this great nation is reprehensible and a direct attack on children and youth that violates our core values. DACA holders have proven time after time that they bring value and contribute to America’s strength in so many ways. They have the right to expect basic freedoms and human rights.

Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness are the inalienable rights that America’s founders envisioned when they declared the country’s independence. We value and appreciate the young immigrants who have gone through so much just to earn the right to remain in this country and work hard. Are these not aligned with the basic ideals upon which our country was established?

We need common sense, comprehensive immigration reform now. As the country takes one giant leap backwards, on immigrant rights, civil liberties, equality and inclusion, racial justice, religious freedom, common decency and respect for the rule of law, the Immigrant Rights Commission calls on our Senators, Mayor, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, City leaders and departments, businesses and all the people of San Francisco, California and the United States to come together, continue to stand up for our young DACA holders and do the right thing for all America’s people. They, and a united, fair, humane and inclusive America, are worth fighting for.

Visit the IRC at <http://sfgov.org/oceia/immigrant-rights-commission>.

Please contact the Office of Civic Engagement & Immigrant Affairs at civic.engagement@sfgov.org, telephone: 415.581.2360. Visit OCEIA at www.sfgov.org/oceia.

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