



December 7, 2010

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John Boehner  
Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Madam Speaker and Minority Leader Boehner:

As student leaders in the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community, we urge you to vote in favor of this important bill when it comes to the floor of the United States House of Representatives. As roughly two thirds of the AAPI population are foreign born and the majority of AAPI college students are immigrants or children of immigrants, the DREAM Act is of great importance to AAPI college students. The DREAM Act is the first step of comprehensive immigration reform, which is a priority for the entire AAPI community.

The DREAM Act would allow undocumented youth a path to legalization through higher education or the armed forces. The DREAM Act would allow undocumented individuals, who were brought over to the United States as children through no fault of their own, to attain legal status. The DREAM Act would allow many high achieving individuals, who want to serve in the armed forces or pursue higher education, to reach their dreams.

These students are leaders in their schools and in their communities. Professor William Perez of Claremont Graduate University followed a group of 200 undocumented students from high school through college and found that 78% of these students were in leadership positions, 28% were involved in student government, and 12% were student body presidents. David Cho, drum major of the UCLA marching band, is a Korean American honor student who wishes to join the US Air Force after he graduates. Steve Li, a nursing student at the City College of San Francisco, aspires to open a health clinic to help low income families. New Yorker Joanna Kim is a college honor student who dreams of giving back to the U.S. by becoming a doctor. Unfortunately, Joanna now faces deportation and the DREAM Act is her best hope for gaining legal status. These young people embody our American values of hard work and giving back to society. Passing the Dream Act will only drive these students to continue to work harder for their education and a chance at citizenship.

We ask for you to take action in support of the DREAM Act now. It is important for Congress to fix the broken immigration system. Passing the DREAM Act is the first step towards comprehensive immigration reform. The DREAM Act would allow these high-achieving individuals to have a chance to contribute fully to the US and to pursue the American Dream. The DREAM Act needs to be passed now and we ask for your vote in support of the DREAM Act and against any amendments that would undermine its intentions.

Sincerely,

Youth Advisory Council, project of Asian American Justice Center, member of the Asian American Center for Advancing Justice

5 College Pan Asian Network

Alliance of Korean American Students in Action, University of California, Los Angeles

Asian American Alliance, Tufts University

Asian American Journal, Stony Brook University

Asian American Student Association, University of Tulsa

Asian American Student Union, University of Florida

Asian American Student Union, University of Kansas

Asian American Student Union, University of Maryland at College Park

Asian American Students Association, Oklahoma State University

Asian Outlook Magazine, Stony Brook University

Asian Pacific American Coalition, University of California, Berkeley

Asian Pacific American Empowerment Conference, University of North Texas

Asian Pacific American Leadership Institute, De Anza College

Asian Pacific American Student Association, Saint Mary's College of California

Asian Pacific Americans for Action, Cornell University

Asian Pacific Student Coalition, University of Pennsylvania

Asian Student's Association, Smith College

ASPIRE (Asian Students Promoting Immigrant Rights through Education), program of the Asian Law Caucus, member of the Asian American Center for Advancing Justice

Bay Area Dream Act Coalition

Black Students Alliance, Smith College

Boston Asian American Students' Intercollegiate Conference

Chinatown Youth Initiatives, Syracuse University

Chinese Students' Association, University of Pennsylvania

Dream Act Portal

Dream IU, Indiana University

East Coast Asian American Student Union

Greater China Initiative, Columbia University

Hispanic American Leadership Organization, University of Missouri

History Department, University of California, Los Angeles

Hmong Student Union, University of California, Davis

Kappa Phi Lambda Sorority Inc. Chi Chapter, University of Maryland, College Park

Korean Resource Center, University of California, Los Angeles

Lambda Sigma Upsilon Latino Fraternity Incorporated, University of Central Florida

Midwest Asian American Students Union

National Korean American Service & Education Consortium, Santa Monica College

Pi Delta Psi, Rutgers University

REACH! Asian/Pacific Islander Recruitment and Retention Center, University of California, Berkeley

Reappropriate.com

Sigma Psi Zeta Sorority, Inc., University of Maryland, College Park

Southeast Asian Organization, University of Wisconsin, Whitewater

Southeast Asian Student Coalition, University of California, Berkeley

Student Government Association, University of Maryland at College Park

United States Student Association

Vietnamese Student Association, Cleveland State University

Vietnamese Student Association, Rice University

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David Camelong, New York  
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Huyen Cao, Oklahoma State University  
Erika Victoria Catipon, University of Maryland, College Park  
Jose Centino, University of Maryland, College Park  
Andrew Chang, University of Florida  
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Muttika Chaturabul, University of California, Berkeley  
Tahreem Chaudhry, University of Pennsylvania  
Thomas Chen, Columbia University  
Angel Chen, Columbia University  
Jamie Chen, Columbia University  
Dara Chen, University of Florida  
Anyi Chen, University of Maryland  
Wendy Chen, University of Maryland, College Park  
Peiling Chen, University of Maryland, College Park  
David Chen, University of Pennsylvania  
Yiping Chenglin, University of Maryland, College Park  
David Cho, University of California, Los Angeles  
So Choi, De Anza College  
Elaine Chow, University of California, Berkeley  
Henry Chow, University of Pennsylvania  
Brandon Chu, Rutgers University  
Mindy Chu, Smith College  
Joemar Clemente, University of California, Davis  
Fernando Colon, University of Missouri  
David Corderman, Saint Mary's College of Maryland  
Alex Coulombe, Syracuse University  
Minh Dang, Cleveland State University  
Lisa Daniels, Smith College  
Peter DeCrescenzo, University of Maryland, College Park  
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Sarah Firdaus, Oklahoma State University  
Adrian Francisco, University of Maryland, College Park  
J G, University of Maryland, College Park  
Melanie Gao, East Coast Asian American Student Union  
Lori Gjoni, University of Maryland

Ronald Gonzaga, University of Maryland, College Park  
Yankun Guo, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
David Ha, University of California, San Diego  
George Hadjiconstantinou, Binghamton University  
Brian Haight, New Jersey Institute of Technology  
James Han, University of Maryland, College Park  
Blanca Hernandez, Bay Area Dream Act Coalition  
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Mayra Jimenez, Smith College  
Liza Joun, Smith College  
Jennifer Juang, Colorado State University  
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Chanvavy Kea, University of Missouri, Columbia  
Munmun Khan, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor  
Scarlette Kim, Santa Monica College  
Angela Kim, University of California, Los Angeles  
Max Kim, University of Maryland, College Park  
Komes Kovatana, Oklahoma State University  
William Kwan, Syracuse University  
Tae Kwon, University of Maryland  
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Christine lien, University of Maryland, College Park  
Cherry Lim, Tufts  
Daniel Lim, University of Maryland, College Park  
Nicholas Loh, Oberlin College  
Soua Lor, University of Wisconsin, Whitewater  
Cindy Lu, University of California, Berkeley  
Nina Lu, University of Texas  
Watson Lum, University of Maryland, College Park  
Kha Ly, University of Missouri  
Sara Mata, Oklahoma State University  
Fasetaulemaga Mataituli, San Francisco Community College  
Michell McGrain, University of Maryland, College Park

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