November 11, 2010

Hon. Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House of Representatives
H-232, US Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Hon. Harry Reid
Senate Majority Leader
522 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Majority Leader Reid,

As this Congress draws to a close, I write on behalf of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC) to urge you to bring the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act to the House and Senate floors as soon as possible in the lame duck session. As you know, CAPAC is a bipartisan, bicameral caucus, comprised of 30 Members of Congress who advocate on behalf of the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community, and immigration reform, including the DREAM Act has long been at the top of our caucus’s agenda.

I applaud you for your leadership in working with President Obama on the issue of immigration, and for having taken important steps toward comprehensive immigration reform this year. As longtime supporters of comprehensive immigration reform, our caucus members believe that passage of the DREAM Act is an important step in the right direction that cannot wait.

We have 65,000 high school graduates ready each year to contribute to our economy, but without the mechanisms to do so. Providing legal means and loan guarantees, as the DREAM Act proposes to do, is a small investment with a large return. Tens of thousands of high school graduates stand ready and waiting to help our economy. The gains are too inviting to ignore, and these students’ dreams too promising to pass up. The time is now to secure the future of our country and further strengthen our economy.

On behalf of the caucus, I urge you to bring the DREAM Act to the floor next week.

Thank you for your unwavering commitment to reforming our outdated immigration system.

Sincerely,

Michael M. Honda
Chair, CAPAC