DREAM Act Supporters—Higher Education Institutions

NATIONAL
ACPA—College Students Educators International
ACT, Inc.
American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education
American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers
American Association of Community Colleges (AACC)
American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU)
American Association of University Professors
American Council on Education (ACE)
American Dental Education Association
American Indian Higher Education Consortium
Association of American Universities
Association of Community College Trustees
Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities
Association of Research Libraries
Center for American Progress Action Fund (CAPAF)
Coalition of Urban and Metropolitan Universities (CUMU)
College Board
Council for Christian Colleges and Universities
Council for Opportunity in Education
Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities
Hispanic Education Coalition (HBC)
NAFSA: Association of International Educators
National Association for College Admissions Counseling
National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities
National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators
National Collegiate Athletic Association
UNCF
United States Student Association

ARIZONA
Arizona State University
Pima Community College

ARKANSAS
Arkansas State University System
University of Arkansas, Little Rock

CALIFORNIA
California State University
California State University, Fresno
San Francisco State University
Stanford University
University of California
University of California, Los Angeles

CONNETICUT
Yale University

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
George Washington University
Georgetown University

FLORIDA
Florida State University

INDIANA
Indiana University
Indiana University, South Bend
Indiana Wesleyan University
Purdue University
Purdue University, North Central
St. Mary's College, Notre Dame
Valparaiso University

ILLINOIS
Harper College
Triton College

KANSAS
Rockhurst College
University of Kansas

LOUISIANA
Loyola University New Orleans

MASSACHUSETTS
Amherst College
Boston College
Boston University
Bunker Hill Community College
Harvard University
Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)
Northeastern University
Salem State College
Tufts University
University of Massachusetts, Amherst (UMass)
University of Massachusetts, Boston (UMass Boston)

MICHIGAN
Wayne State University

**MINNESOTA**
Riverland Community College
University of Minnesota

**MONTANA**
University of Montana

**NEW MEXICO**
University of New Mexico

**NEW YORK**
Columbia University
Cornell University
Farmingdale State College
Fordham University
New York University
State University of New York
Stony Brook University
Syracuse University
The City University of New York
University of Buffalo
University of Rochester

**OHIO**
Owens Community College

**OREGON**
Lane Community College
Mt. Hood Community College
Oregon State Board of Higher Education
Oregon University System
Portland State University
Southern Oregon University

**PENNSYLVANIA**
Butler County Community College
Montgomery County Community College
Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE)
Swarthmore College
University of Pennsylvania

**TEXAS**
McLennan Community College
St. Mary’s University
**VIRGINIA**
Eastern Mennonite University
Northern Virginia Community College (NOVA)

**UTAH**
University of Utah

**WASHINGTON**
Eastern Washington University
University of Washington
Washington State University
Yakima Valley Community College

**WISCONSIN**
University of Wisconsin System
September 21, 2010

The Honorable Harry Reid  The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader  Minority Leader
United States Senate  United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510  Washington, DC 20510

Dear Majority Leader Reid and Minority Leader McConnell:

I am writing on behalf of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU), representing over 400 public colleges and universities and state higher education systems across the United States, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands to urge your support for the Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act as an amendment to the FY 2011 Department of Defense Authorization Act.

The DREAM Act would accomplish two important things. First, the legislation would allow states to set in-state tuition policy for undocumented students. As public institutions governed by state legislatures and boards of education, AASCU believes that states’ authority over tuition policy must be preserved and respected. Second, the DREAM Act would establish a six-year conditional permanent residency status for young people who were brought to the U.S. prior to the age of 16, have lived in the country for at least five years from the date of passage, graduated from high school in the U.S., and have good moral character. Students who serve in the military or enroll in postsecondary education for two years may be eligible for permanent residency.

The reasons to pass the DREAM Act are numerous. In considering this legislation, it is important to remember that these students came to the U.S. through no fault of their own. In fact, many of these students have been in this country for so long that they do not have memories of their home countries. Each year, approximately 65,000 of these students walk across the stage at high school graduations with dreams of pursuing their college education and beginning a career, but have few options to pursue these ambitions. Yet, over 1 million teachers will be needed in the next decade to meet the demands in the K-12 classroom and hundreds of thousands of nurses are needed to staff hospitals and clinics. In addition, our universities must graduate scientists and mathematicians to sustain our knowledge-based economy. By passing the
Letter to Majority Leader Reid and Minority Leader McConnell  
September 17, 2010  
Page Two  

DREAM Act, these students will have an opportunity to contribute to the American economy in high-need disciplines and become capable and contributing citizens to the nation’s economy and workforce.

AASCU institutions are institutions of access and opportunity, and we pride ourselves on keeping students at the heart of our enterprise. Our AASCU institutions are eager to serve these students, and to support them in fulfilling their ambitions in undergraduate education and beyond. We urge you to support this legislation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,

Muriel A. Howard  
President
AMERICAN COUNCIL ON EDUCATION

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

September 17, 2010

The Honorable Harry Reid  The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader  Minority Leader
United States Senate  United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510  Washington, DC 20510

Dear Majority Leader Reid and Minority Leader McConnell:

On behalf of the American Council on Education and the undersigned higher education associations representing the nation's two- and four-year public and private colleges and universities and the nearly 20 million students they serve, I write in support of the Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act and urge you to pass it this year.

The DREAM Act would do two things to make the future brighter for students who have worked hard, aspire to do more, and in whom this nation has already invested a great deal of resources. First, the bill would return to the states the ability to decide whether to extend in-state tuition to undocumented students, though it does not require them to take any particular action in this area.

Second, the DREAM Act would establish a six-year conditional permanent residency status for students who were brought to this country before the age of 16, have been here at least five years as of the enactment date, graduate from a U.S. high school or obtain a GED credential, and meet other requirements. DREAM-eligible individuals may qualify for permanent residency after six years by completing at least two years of higher education or military service.

This bill is designed to focus on the special case of undocumented young people who came to this country because of the actions of their parents. Many of them have no ties or even memories of the countries from which they came. They consider themselves to be American, just like their classmates, and in most ways they are.

The DREAM Act is an important tool for achieving our national goal of returning the United States to world leadership in higher education attainment. It has been estimated that 65,000 DREAM-eligible students graduate from American high schools each year.
These students often have to overcome significant barriers to graduate from high school, and we cannot afford to stymie their aspirations to continue their education and contribute to our economy and society.

We strongly urge you to pass the DREAM Act this year.

Sincerely,

Molly Corbett Broad
President

MCB/Idw

On behalf of:
ACPA – College Student Educators International
ACT, Inc.
American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education
American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers
American Association of Community Colleges
American Association of State Colleges and Universities
American Association of University Professors
American Council on Education
American Dental Education Association
American Indian Higher Education Consortium
Association of American Universities
Association of Community College Trustees
Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities
Association of Research Libraries
College Board
Council for Christian Colleges & Universities
Council for Opportunity in Education
Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities
NAFSA: Association of International Educators
National Association for College Admission Counseling
National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities
National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators
National Collegiate Athletic Association
UNCF
United States Student Association
The Honorable Harry Reid  
Majority Leader of the United States Senate  
Washington, D.C., 20510  

August 2, 2010  

RE: DREAM Act Support  

Dear Sen. Reid:  

The Center for American Progress Action Fund (CAPAF) strongly supports the bipartisan DREAM Act. CAPAF has been a leader in the effort to overhaul and rationalize our immigration system and the DREAM Act has been an important component of every comprehensive immigration reform (CIR) proposal over the last several years.  

Like many of the other component pieces of CIR, the DREAM Act alone is not a solution to the systemic problems plaguing our country’s immigration policy. CAPAF does believe, however, that passing the DREAM Act would serve as an important legislative stepping stone towards enacting broader reforms that reset our nation’s immigration policy.  

CAPAF’s partner, Campus Progress, has made congressional enactment of the DREAM Act a high priority. Campus Progress has promoted and participated in numerous actions throughout the year to grow public support for this bipartisan proposal, which would create a path to earned citizenship for thousands of young students who were brought to the United States years ago as children. Our nation must not lose the intellectual and human capital that exists among promising immigrant students who have demonstrated a commitment to hard work and a desire to be contributing members to our society.  

Passing the DREAM Act will advance the quality of life for millions of families and will help lay the groundwork for enactment of comprehensive immigration reform. We look forward to working with you on this, and all immigration legislation.  

Sincerely,  

[Signature]  

Winnie Stachelberg  
Senior VP for External Affairs  
Center for American Progress Action Fund  

[Signature]  

Angela M. Kelley  
VP for Immigration Policy and Advocacy  
Center for American Progress Action Fund  

Progress Through Action
June 10, 2010

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin
U.S. Senate
309 Hart Senate Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Richard G. Lugar
U.S. Senate
306 Hart Senate Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators Durbin and Lugar:

The Coalition of Urban and Metropolitan Universities (CUMU) is an organization of 75 higher education institutions that are committed to the stewardship of our surrounding communities. Our guiding document, the Declaration of Metropolitan Universities, best articulates the Coalition’s commitment to education for all of our citizens: We will work collaboratively with public schools to foster community partnerships that enhance the opportunities for urban children to graduate from high school prepared for post-secondary education.

Our universities’ strategic partnerships with K-12 school districts and community organizations around the country focus on helping all students succeed – documented or undocumented. Unfortunately, however, the 65,000 undocumented high school immigrants who graduate every year are repeatedly unable to afford college because of a lack of access to resident tuition and government-backed financial aid. As you are aware, all children in America are guaranteed access to a free public K-12 education, regardless of their immigration status. This country continues to deny the opportunity for undocumented students to gain access to affordable higher education despite the fact that these students have worked and studied equally as hard as their documented counterparts.

As the president of CUMU, I urge you to act immediately in support of the Development, Relief, Education for Alien Minors Act (DREAM, S. 729). This year the DREAM Act would: (1) allow states to determine tuition status of undocumented students and (2) permit certain immigrant students who have grown up in the U.S., have good moral character, and have graduated from a U.S. high school to apply for temporary legal status and to eventually obtain permanent status and become eligible for U.S. citizenship if they go to college or serve in the U.S. military.

The Coalition of Urban and Metropolitan Universities urges you, your colleagues in Congress, and the Administration to develop and enact the policy reform needed to provide these high school graduates with access to higher education attainment.

Sincerely,

Steven Diner, Ph.D.
Chancellor, Rutgers University – Newark
President, CUMU
June 2, 2009

The Honorable Harry Reid  The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Senate Majority Leader  Speaker of the House  
United States Senate  United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20510  Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senator Reid and Madam Speaker:

On behalf of the Hispanic Education Coalition (HEC), a coalition of 26 organizations dedicated to improving educational opportunities for the 51 million Latinos living in the United States and Puerto Rico, we write in strong support of the “Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act of 2009” (S. 729), also known as the “American Dream Act” (H.R. 1751). The “DREAM Act” would remove a major barrier to post-secondary education that many qualified immigrant students face, despite the fact that they have grown up in the United States, attended the same schools as native-born students, and achieved the same high academic standards as their peers.

In fact, each year approximately 65,000 immigrant students with excellent academic records are denied the opportunity to pursue higher education. They are unable to afford out-of-state tuition and are disallowed access to federal financial aid. In effect, through no act of their own, they are denied the opportunity to share in the American Dream. Such barriers thwart the aspirations of thousands of potential teachers, doctors, nurses, and engineers.

This piece of legislation is critical for not only the Latino community, but also the nation as a whole. Latinos are the fastest-growing segment of the U.S. student population and represent the future of the U.S. workforce. The passage of the “DREAM Act” will increase educational attainment among Latinos in the United States, affording them adequate preparation for work. In turn, the nation’s economy will thrive.
We must invest in these future leaders, which includes removing unfair obstacles to higher education and allowing them the opportunity to become successful participants in the U.S. workforce. If these students succeed, we all benefit. Thus, the HEC applauds the leadership of Senator Durbin (D-IL), Senator Lugar (R-IN), and Representative Berman (D-CA)—who have championed this bipartisan legislation—and strongly urges the 111th Congress to pass the “DREAM Act.”

Sincerely,

Erika Beltran
National Council of La Raza
HEC Co-chair

Iris Chavez
League of United Latin American Citizens
HEC Co-chair

Cc: Member of the United States Senate and House of Representatives.
May 6, 2010

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer  
U.S. Senate  
313 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin  
U.S. Senate  
309 Hart Senate Building  
Washington D.C. 20510

The Honorable Lindsey O. Graham  
U.S. Senate  
290 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard G. Lugar  
U.S. Senate  
306 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Schumer, Graham, Durbin, and Lugar:

As university and college presidents, we write in support of the effort to ensure access to higher education for the thousands of undocumented high school graduates whose ability to obtain a college education is thwarted by our current dysfunctional immigration system. These are students brought to the United States as children, innocents caught up in the middle of the immigration debate. The decision to come to this country was not theirs. But America is the only home they have known and they have spent their young lives being good students, working hard, and staying out of trouble.

Approximately 65,000 undocumented immigrants graduate from American high schools every year—often unable to afford college without access to resident tuition or government-backed federal or state financial aid. The ability of these young people to contribute to the economic growth of our country, and to their own self-sufficiency, depends in large measure on their ability to further their education. Around 50% of undocumented students drop out of our high schools despite the fact that educational attainment is one of the most important predictors of an individual’s economic success and quality of life.

There is a million-dollar difference, over a lifetime, between the earning capacity of a high school graduate and a college graduate. Research also shows that people who go to college are healthier, are more likely to volunteer and to participate in their community, and are less likely to be incarcerated or rely on public assistance. Undocumented children in America are guaranteed access to public elementary and secondary schools by a 1982 Supreme Court ruling which held that a state cannot deny a free public K-12 education on the basis of immigration status. Erecting barriers and continuing to restrict the opportunity for undocumented children to have access to an affordable higher education denies them economic, social and intellectual benefits that will serve both them and our nation in the future.

There are two primary pathways to remove the obstacles to higher education faced by undocumented U.S. high school graduates. The special needs and interests of undocumented U.S. high school students have been the subject of legislation known as the DREAM Act. The DREAM Act is an essential part of comprehensive immigration reform but it also stands on its own; it has been a stand-alone bill since 2001, when it was first introduced, and most recently last March (S. 729 & H.R. 1751). While the proposals
vary, common requirements include academic success, demonstrated good moral character, arrival in the US at a young age and presence here for a certain number of years.

We understand the need for and support comprehensive reform as we recognize that the students who would benefit from the DREAM Act do not live in isolation from the parents who brought them to this country. But, if comprehensive immigration reform is not initiated in 2010, the special needs and interests of undocumented U.S. high school students should be addressed through separate DREAM Act legislation that balances all of the competing considerations in a reasonable, rational way. The undocumented high school graduates who are qualified to attend college have been waiting now for many years for federal immigration policy to be revised to provide them with meaningful access to U.S. colleges and universities. Further delay is unacceptable. It is imperative that action be taken in 2010 to finally make a college education available to these qualified graduates of U.S. high schools.

Please note that while we support the DREAM Act either as stand-alone legislation or as part of comprehensive reform, the current proposals need some fine tuning to ensure that the legislation actually meets the needs of these students who are in the United States as a result of circumstances they did not create or control. Because of the current layering of federal law and policy, state law and policy, and admission, tuition and financial aid policies and the practices of hundreds of institutions of higher education around the country, some additional changes are necessary.

Among those changes would be the proffering of federal grant aid to DREAM Act students to remove barriers to their higher education success.

In summary, these students should have both access to college and, if successful, a clear pathway to citizenship. In the current international economic competition, the U.S. needs all of the talent that it can acquire and these students represent an extraordinary resource for the country. The DREAM Act is not social work, it is an economic imperative.

We stand ready to work with you, your colleagues in Congress, and the Obama Administration to develop and enact the immigration policy reform needed to provide a pathway for these graduates of U.S. high schools to attend college regardless of the state in which they live or the college or university to which they seek admission.

We must make progress in addressing this matter in 2010. Thank you for your leadership in doing so.

Sincerely,

Michael Crow
President, Arizona State University

Robert H. Bruininks
President, University of Minnesota

Elson S. Floyd
President, Washington State University

Mark A. Emmert
President, University of Washington

Michael K. Young
President, University of Utah

Charles B. Reed
Chancellor, The California State University
David J. Schmidly  
President, University of New Mexico

Mark G. Yudof  
President, University of California system  
University of California, Berkeley  
University of California, Davis  
University of California, Irvine  
University of California, Los Angeles  
University of California, Merced  
University of California, Riverside  
University of California, San Diego  
University of California, San Francisco  
University of California, Santa Barbara  
University of California, Santa Cruz

Jay Noren  
President, Wayne State University
June 17, 2010

The Honorable Mark Pryor  
United States Senator  
225 Dirksen Building  
Washington, DC 20501

Dear Senator Pryor:

I am writing to respectfully request your support of the DREAM Act (S.729). As the number of immigrant students continues to increase in Arkansas, the issue of their undocumented immigration status should not be a barrier to higher education.

Passage of the Dream Act would allow undocumented students who graduated from a United States high school the opportunity to pursue their dreams and goals by attending Arkansas' colleges and universities and becoming productive members of our society. This Act also will address the financial needs of students by eliminating the federal provision that penalizes states that allow in-state tuition without regard to immigration status. In addition, it will restore authority to the states to determine tuition status for undocumented immigrant students, a concept I strongly support.

Arkansas State University, the state of Arkansas, and indeed the world, will benefit from passage of the DREAM Act. By providing access to higher education, we are helping individuals achieve the American dream of a better life. I would sincerely appreciate your careful consideration and active support of this legislation.

Very sincerely,

Leslie Wyatt  
President

LW:bc
June 4, 2010

The Honorable Mark Pryor
U.S. Senator
255 Dirksen Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Pryor:

I write to ask you for your support of the DREAM Act. On behalf of the students that UALR serves who are impacted by the issue of their undocumented immigration status, I want to emphasize the impact that S. 729 will have on these students and our state. An ever-growing immigrant population is now a reality in Arkansas and in a number of other states. There are students in our state who grew up in our towns and cities, attended Arkansas high schools and graduated alongside native-born students. They have the same potential, capacity, dreams and goals for academic success.

Passage of the DREAM Act would mean that these students can achieve a status of legal residence that will allow them to pursue a higher education. The act will remove the obstacle of not being eligible for certain financial aid programs. The DREAM Act would repeal section 505 of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996, which currently discourages states from providing in-state tuition or other higher education benefits without regard to immigration status. I strongly support the concept of restoring authority to the states to make their own decisions about the issue of in-state tuition for undocumented immigrant students.

The DREAM Act will not only be good for students. I believe that Arkansas will also benefit as a state by increasing access to higher education. Arkansas needs more college graduates and a more productive workforce – denying any child an education holds all of us back. These students likely will live in Arkansas their entire adult lives. Their children will be American citizens. If the DREAM Act passes, I don't foresee a huge influx of immigrant students in Arkansas colleges and universities, but there would be an increase of capable, intelligent, motivated young people who want to achieve a college education.

Again, I request your support of the DREAM Act. I believe we will all see the benefits to our state from its passage.

Sincerely yours,

Joel E. Anderson
Chancellor
June 7, 2010

VIA FACSIMILE (209) 726-1065
Congressman Dennis Cardoza

Dear Mr. Cardoza:

I write to urge your support of H.R. 119 - Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act. This act would eliminate a federal provision penalizing states that provide in-state tuition without regard to immigration status. This act would also permit certain immigrant students who have grown up in the U.S., have good moral character, and have graduated from a U.S. high school, to apply for temporary legal status and eventually obtain permanent status and become eligible for U.S. citizenship if they go to college or serve in the U.S. military.

I often interact with students classified as "undocumented" who work extremely hard to get a college education. They make extraordinary sacrifices because they know and understand the importance of education. Each year, tears come to my eyes as I hear some of their stories at Commencement. The DREAM Act would allow our country to benefit from these students who have sacrificed a great deal.

Thank you for your consideration of this bill.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
John D. Welty
President

JDW:mem
June 7, 2010

VIA FACSIMILE (559) 449-2499
Congressman George Radanovich

Dear Mr. Radanovich:

I write to urge your support of H.R. 119 - Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act. This act would eliminate a federal provision penalizing states that provide in-state tuition without regard to immigration status. This act would also permit certain immigrant students who have grown up in the U.S., have good moral character, and have graduated from a U.S. high school, to apply for temporary legal status and eventually obtain permanent status and become eligible for U.S. citizenship if they go to college or serve in the U.S. military.

I often interact with students classified as "undocumented" who work extremely hard to get a college education. They make extraordinary sacrifices because they know and understand the importance of education. Each year, tears come to my eyes as I hear some of their stories at Commencement. The DREAM Act would allow our country to benefit from these students who have sacrificed a great deal.

Thank you for your consideration of this bill.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
John D. Welty
President

JDW:mem
June 7, 2010

VIA FACSIMILE (559) 323-5528
Congressman Devin Nunes

Dear Mr. Nunes:

I write to urge your support of H.R. 119 - Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act. This act would eliminate a federal provision penalizing states that provide in-state tuition without regard to immigration status. This act would also permit certain immigrant students who have grown up in the U.S., have good moral character, and have graduated from a U.S. high school, to apply for temporary legal status and eventually obtain permanent status and become eligible for U.S. citizenship if they go to college or serve in the U.S. military.

I often interact with students classified as "undocumented" who work extremely hard to get a college education. They make extraordinary sacrifices because they know and understand the importance of education. Each year, tears come to my eyes as I hear some of their stories at Commencement. The DREAM Act would allow our country to benefit from these students who have sacrificed a great deal.

Thank you for your consideration of this bill.

Sincerely,

John D. Welty
President

JDW:mem
June 7, 2010

VIA FACSIMILE (559) 495-1027
Congressman Jim Costa

Dear Mr. Costa:

I write to urge your support of H.R. 119 - Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act. This act would eliminate a federal provision penalizing states that provide in-state tuition without regard to immigration status. This act would also permit certain immigrant students who have grown up in the U.S., have good moral character, and have graduated from a U.S. high school, to apply for temporary legal status and eventually obtain permanent status and become eligible for U.S. citizenship if they go to college or serve in the U.S. military.

I often interact with students classified as "undocumented" who work extremely hard to get a college education. They make extraordinary sacrifices because they know and understand the importance of education. Each year, tears come to my eyes as I hear some of their stories at Commencement. The DREAM Act would allow our country to benefit from these students who have sacrificed a great deal.

Thank you for your consideration of this bill.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
John D. Welty
President

JDW:mem
June 7, 2010

VIA FACSIMILE (202) 228-3954
Senator Diane Feinstein

Dear Senator Feinstein:

I write to urge your support of S.729 - Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act. This act would eliminate a federal provision penalizing states that provide in-state tuition without regard to immigration status. This act would also permit certain immigrant students who have grown up in the U.S., have good moral character, and have graduated from a U.S. high school, to apply for temporary legal status and eventually obtain permanent status and become eligible for U.S. citizenship if they go to college or serve in the U.S. military.

I often interact with students classified as "undocumented" who work extremely hard to get a college education. They make extraordinary sacrifices because they know and understand the importance of education. Each year, tears come to my eyes as I hear some of their stories at Commencement. The DREAM Act would allow our country to benefit from these students who have sacrificed a great deal.

Thank you for your consideration of this bill.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
John D. Welty
President

JDW:mem
June 7, 2010

VIA FACSIMILE (202) 228 3864
Senator Barbara Boxer

Dear Senator Boxer:

I write to urge your support of S.729 - Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act. This act would eliminate a federal provision penalizing states that provide in-state tuition without regard to immigration status. This act would also permit certain immigrant students who have grown up in the U.S., have good moral character, and have graduated from a U.S. high school, to apply for temporary legal status and eventually obtain permanent status and become eligible for U.S. citizenship if they go to college or serve in the U.S. military.

I often interact with students classified as "undocumented" who work extremely hard to get a college education. They make extraordinary sacrifices because they know and understand the importance of education. Each year, tears come to my eyes as I hear some of their stories at Commencement. The DREAM Act would allow our country to benefit from these students who have sacrificed a great deal.

Thank you for your consideration of this bill.

Sincerely,

John D. Welty
President

JDW:mem

Office of the President
Harold H. Haak Administrative Center
Henry Madden Library, Suite 4104
5200 North Backer Ave. M5 ML48
Fresno, CA 93740-8014
559.278.2324
Fax 559.278.4715

THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY
September 17, 2010

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
United States Senate
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Feinstein:

On behalf of the students, faculty, and staff at San Francisco State University, I am writing to request your vote to support the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors Act, DREAM Act, S.729). I understand that the Senate is expected to bring this legislation to a vote next week as part of the Defense Authorization bill.

The DREAM Act would give an opportunity for undocumented children to have access to an affordable higher education which will provide economic, social and intellectual benefits that will serve both them and our state in the future. The ability of these young people to contribute to the economic growth of our state and our country, and to their own self-sufficiency, depends in large measure on their ability to further their education.

Passage of the DREAM Act is important not just for equity and fairness - two values critical to SF State - but to the future economic growth of the state of California. A recent study from the Public Policy Institute of California reported that California is facing a serious shortage of skilled workers in the next 20 years, when two of every five jobs will require a college degree, up from the current one in three. California has the population to meet that shortage but many are undocumented immigrants. We must get them ready for college, into college, graduated from college and then into the workforce.

SF State works closely with our K-12 and community college partners to ensure that all high school students have a chance to receive an excellent and affordable education. Access to college is key not only to personal opportunity, but to our economy and the preservation of our nation’s values.

Thank you again for all your extraordinary work on behalf of students, parents and educators.

Sincerely,

Robert Corrigan
President
June 3, 2009

The Honorable Barbara Boxer
US Senate
112 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20514

Dear Senator Boxer:

I am writing to thank you for cosponsoring S. 729, the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act, and to express my support for the bill.

As you know, approximately 65,000 undocumented students graduate from our nation’s high schools each year. Unfortunately, many of these young people, who have lived in this country for most of their lives and who have records of academic achievement and community involvement, are unable to attend college because of their immigration status. The DREAM Act would allow these students to gain conditional permanent legal resident status as they pursue their undergraduate education.

Over the years, I have supported broad-based immigration reform that balances our national security concerns with policies that embody opportunity and fairness and strengthen our country’s science and technology base. It is in that context that I voice my strong support for the DREAM Act.

If I can be of help as you work to move this important legislation forward, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

John L. Hennessy

Office of the President
Building 10, Main Quadrangle Stanford, CA 94305-2060  (650) 723-2481  F (650) 725-6847
June 3, 2009

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
US Senate
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20514

Dear Senator Feinstein:

I am writing to thank you for cosponsoring S. 729, the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act, and to express my support for the bill.

As you know, approximately 65,000 undocumented students graduate from our nation’s high schools each year. Unfortunately, many of these young people, who have lived in this country for most of their lives and who have records of academic achievement and community involvement, are unable to attend college because of their immigration status. The DREAM Act would allow these students to gain conditional permanent legal resident status as they pursue their undergraduate education.

Over the years, I have supported broad-based immigration reform that balances our national security concerns with policies that embody opportunity and fairness and strengthen our country’s science and technology base. It is in that context that I voice my strong support for the DREAM Act.

If I can be of help as you work to move this important legislation forward, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

John L. Hennessy

Office of the President
Building 10, Main Quadrangle Stanford, CA 94305-2060 T (650) 723-2481 F (650) 725-6847
June 3, 2009

The Honorable Zoe Lofgren
Chairwoman
Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship,
Refugees, Border Security, and International Law
US House of Representatives
517 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Lofgren:

I am writing to thank you for cosponsoring HR 1751, the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act, and to express my support for the bill.

As you know, approximately 65,000 undocumented students graduate from our nation’s high schools each year. Unfortunately, many of these young people, who have lived in this country for most of their lives and who have records of academic achievement and community involvement, are unable to attend college because of their immigration status. The DREAM Act would allow these students to gain conditional permanent legal resident status as they pursue their undergraduate education.

Over the years, you and I have often discussed the need for broad-based immigration reform that balances our national security concerns with policies that embody opportunity and fairness and strengthen our country’s science and technology base. It is in that context that I voice my strong support for the DREAM Act.

If I can be of help as you work to move this important legislation forward, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

John L. Hennessy

Office of the President
Building 10, Main Quadrangle Stanford, CA 94305-2060  T (650) 723-2481  F (650) 725-6847
June 3, 2009

The Honorable Anna Eshoo  
US House of Representatives  
205 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Eshoo:

I am writing to thank you for cosponsoring H.R. 1751, the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act, and to express my support for the bill.

As you know, approximately 65,000 undocumented students graduate from our nation’s high schools each year. Unfortunately, many of these young people, who have lived in this country for most of their lives and who have records of academic achievement and community involvement, are unable to attend college because of their immigration status. The DREAM Act would allow these students to gain conditional permanent legal resident status as they pursue their undergraduate education.

Over the years, I have supported broad-based immigration reform that balances our national security concerns with policies that embody opportunity and fairness and strengthen our country’s science and technology base. It is in that context that I voice my strong support for the DREAM Act.

If I can be of help as you work to move this important legislation forward, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

John L. Hennessy

Office of the President  
Building 10, Main Quadrangle  
Stanford, CA 94305-2060  
T (650) 723-2481  
F (650) 725-6847
The Honorable Dianne Feinstein  
United States Senate  
331 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20514  

Dear Senator Feinstein:

The University of California (UC) has long supported the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act, and is hopeful that increasing public endorsements for the current bills, S. 729 and H.R. 1751, from the religious, education, business, civil rights, and student communities, will help speed enactment of this important legislation.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank you for your sponsorship of S. 729, which will expand educational opportunity to students who came to this country as children; lived in our communities for a long time; and through hard work and perseverance, have graduated from high school and desire to continue their studies at a college or university.

As you are aware, the DREAM Act would grant conditional legal status to these students who, through no fault of their own, find their education and employment options severely limited once they graduate from high school. The law would not force states to charge in-state tuition to non-residents, as critics claim, but instead continue to allow states to determine their own eligibility and residency criteria for in-state tuition purposes as California has done. While DREAM students would only have limited eligibility for federal student loans, they would have access to helpful state and institutional support if otherwise qualified.

Many of California’s best and brightest students are eligible for admission to UC and have the desire and ability to make vital contributions to our state and nation. The DREAM Act will help make access a reality for all the students we admit.
The Honorable Dianne Feinstein  
June 26, 2009  
Page 2

We thank you for cosponsoring this important legislation and pledge to assist you in enacting the DREAM Act in this Congress.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Mark G. Yudof  
President

cc: Interim Provost Pitts  
Senior Vice President Dooley  
Vice President Sakaki  
Associate Vice President Falle  
Associate Vice President Juarez
The Honorable Barbara Boxer
United States Senate
112 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20514

Dear Senator Boxer:

The University of California has long supported the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act, and is hopeful that increasing public endorsements for the current bills, S. 729 and H.R. 1751, from the religious, education, business, civil rights, and student communities, will help speed enactment of this important legislation.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank you for your sponsorship of S. 729, which will expand educational opportunity to students who came to this country as children; lived in our communities for a long time; and through hard work and perseverance, have graduated from high school and desire to continue their studies at a college or university.

As you are aware, the DREAM Act would grant conditional legal status to these students who, through no fault of their own, find their education and employment options severely limited once they graduate from high school. The law would not force states to charge in-state tuition to non-residents, as critics claim, but instead continue to allow states to determine their own eligibility and residency criteria for in-state tuition purposes as California has done. While DREAM students would only have limited eligibility for federal student loans, they would have access to helpful state and institutional support if otherwise qualified.

Many of California's best and brightest students are eligible for admission to UC and have the desire and ability to make vital contributions to our state and nation. The DREAM Act will help make access a reality for all the students we admit.
The Honorable Barbara Boxer  
June 26, 2009  
Page 2

We thank you for cosponsoring this important legislation and pledge to assist you in enacting the DREAM Act in this Congress.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Mark G. Yudof  
President

cc: Interim Provost Pitts  
Senior Vice President Dooley  
Vice President Sakaki  
Associate Vice President Falle  
Associate Vice President Juarez
The Honorable Dianne Feinstein  
U.S. Senate  
SH-331 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510  

VIA FAX: 202.228-3954  

Dear Senator Feinstein:  

I deeply appreciate your support of the American Dream Act (S.729). This legislation would grant undocumented high school graduates across the nation greater access to higher education and future employment opportunities.  

I have met with several of these students who are attending UCLA. They are high-achieving, motivated, and driven to succeed. Most work several jobs and commute long distances every day so they can afford to stay in school. But once they earn their degrees—whether a bachelor’s, master’s or doctorate—their immigration status prevents them from working legally in the U.S.  

These young people deserve the opportunity to reach their educational goals and become productive members of society. Enactment of the American Dream Act would give them that chance.  

Again, thank you for supporting the American Dream Act. Please feel free to contact me if I can be of assistance to you on this important issue.  

Sincerely,  

[Signature]  

Gene D. Block  
Chancellor
April 6, 2009

Honorable Richard Durbin
United States Senate
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Senator Durbin:

I hope this finds you doing well. I just wanted to express how grateful I am to you for introducing, along with Senator Lugar, the “Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors” or DREAM Act, S. 729. Your legislation, if enacted, would permit undocumented students of good moral character who arrived in the United States at age 15 or younger, lived in the United States for at least 5 years, graduated from high school, and serve in the military or attend college for at least two years to become permanent residents.

This legislation acknowledges that these young people had no choice about their legal status having come to the United States with their parents at a very young age, and it recognizes that the young men and women who would be covered are American in virtually every sense of the word.

I have taken a particular interest in this legislation because of a young man who came to Georgetown as a transfer student last September, Juan Gomez. Juan and his brother came to the United States with their parents in 1990 when Juan was just two years old. An uncle and two cousins had been victims of the violence in their native Colombia which led his parents to come to the United States. While his parents sought political asylum, Juan and his brother grew up in Miami. One of his high school teachers commented that Juan was “one of the best students ever to graduate from Killian” (his Miami high school).

Fortunately for Juan and his brother, a private bill has been introduced in the Senate (and in the House) that will effectively protect them from deportation, but the DREAM Act as you and your cosponsors have proposed will ensure that other young people who came to the United States not under their own volition and who have been raised as Americans can continue their lives here through military service or college attendance.

As I am sure you are aware, earlier this year, The Washington Post Magazine published a cover story about Juan’s situation. So you know, I am sharing that article with other Georgetown alumni in the Senate (and in the House) in the hope that it will lead them to join you and your colleagues in cosponsoring the DREAM Act.

Again, thank you for your leadership on this important issue.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

John J. DeGioia

Enclosure
May 21, 2010

Senator George LeMieux
United States Senate
356 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator LeMieux:

The student body, faculty and administration at The Florida State University ask you to support the DREAM (Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors) Act.

As you are aware, each year about 5,000 undocumented immigrant students graduate from Florida high schools, but only 5 per cent go on to college, compared with 75 per cent of their classmates. Far too many of these students will graduate from high school without being able to plan for the future, without the opportunities they have worked for and deserve. The students who would benefit from this bill are high achievers who contribute to their communities, have learned English, pledge love and allegiance to this nation, have successfully graduated from a U.S. high school, have been accepted into a two- or four-year college or university or serve the U.S. armed forces, and have a clean record with the law.

Florida State University has been recognized as being at the forefront for recruiting and retaining a diverse student body where all of our students can thrive. The DREAM Act would allow us to offer this support to additional highly deserving students who are passionate about the American dream. With their proven commitment to hard work, ability to overcome adversity and strong desire to be contributing members of our society, these young people have the potential to be true assets for our state and our nation. It is shameful to reject them.

Our Student Government Association and our Council of Graduate Students have passed resolutions to support the DREAM Act, and we are enclosing copies of these documents.

We hope that you will add your voice to pass this much-needed legislation.

Sincerely,

Eric Barron
President

211 Westcott Building, Florida State University, P.O. Box 3061470, Tallahassee, FL 32306-1470
Telephone 850.644.1085 • Fax 850.644.9936 • http://president.fsu.edu/
May 26, 2010

Office of the President

The Honorable Richard Lugar
United States Senate
306 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-1401

Dear Senator Lugar:

As President of Indiana University, I write in support of the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act, which would help thousands of undocumented students attain the dream of a college education. I also wish to recognize and greatly commend your leadership on the issue and your consistent support for this legislation.

While undocumented students are not prohibited from admission to college solely due to their citizenship status, a number of barriers keep them from attending. Two of these impediments — the inability to pay for college and the limited career opportunities for noncitizens — would be addressed by the legislation. Enacting the DREAM Act would truly open the door to a better life for thousands of individuals who were born elsewhere but now consider the United States their home.

The national debate over immigration matters is as complex as it is intense. There are no easy solutions and the difficulty in achieving consensus is understandable. Still, passage of this important legislation is critical not only to the individual futures of thousands of undocumented young people, but to this nation’s ability to remain an economic power as well. You will understand that as an immigrant to this country myself, I am acutely aware of the importance and validity of this argument.

Yours sincerely,

Michael A. McRobbie
President

MAM/dw

cc: Mike Sample, Vice President for Public Affairs and Government Relations
Doug Wasitis, Director, Federal Relations
May 27, 2010

The Honorable Richard Lugar  
United States Senate  
306 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515-1401

Dear Senator Lugar:

As Chancellor of Indiana University South Bend, I write in support of the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act, which would help thousands of undocumented students attain the dream of a college education. While undocumented students are not prohibited from admission to college solely due to their citizenship status, a number of barriers keep them from attending. Two of these impediments—the inability to pay for college and the limited career opportunities for noncitizens—would be addressed by the legislation. Enacting the DREAM Act would truly open the door to a better life for thousands of individuals who were born elsewhere but now consider the United States their home.

Thank you, Senator Lugar, for your leadership and support of the DREAM Act.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Una Mae Reck  
Chancellor
The Honorable Richard Lugar  
United States Senate  
306 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington DC 20515-1401  

Dear Senator Lugar:

I am pleased to join with other leaders in our state in support of the DREAM Act currently being considered in Congress. Successful passage of this legislation will greatly assist thousands of undocumented students to achieve a college education.

Although undocumented students are not prohibited from admission to college solely due to their citizenship status, a number of barriers keep them from attending. Two of these impediments, (1) the inability to pay for college and (2) the limited career opportunities for noncitizens, would be addressed by the legislation.

For many of these young people, conditional legal status would greatly assist acceptance into college thus providing a pathway for learning, career opportunities, and an improved quality of life. Transformational experience for these students would have an enduring impact upon their families, the communities they serve, and our society.

In the midst of the unresolved broader debate in this country about immigration issues, the DREAM Act will empower many young adults to turn aspirations into action. DREAM also helps lay the groundwork for consensus on other fronts in the immigration debate, which can prompt more much-needed progress.

Senator Lugar, your leadership on the issue is deeply appreciated. It is my privilege to offer my support for this important bill.

Sincerely,

Henry L. Smith, Ph.D.  
President

cc:  Jo Anne Lyon, General Superintendent, The Wesleyan Church  
     Norman Wilson, Intercultural Studies, Professor
June 3, 2010

The Honorable Richard Lugar
United States Senate
306 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-1401

Dear Senator Lugar:

I am pleased to join with other leaders in our state in support of the DREAM Act, which is currently being considered in Congress. Successful passage of this legislation will greatly assist many undocumented students achieve a college education and add to the creative and intellectual wealth of the country.

The legislation directly addresses several of the barriers to college enrollment for these young people, including the fundamental challenge of paying for higher education. For many, acceptance into college would also provide a better path toward conditional permanent residency. The life, learning and career opportunities created by these steps would have an enduring impact on students and their families. Society will clearly benefit.

Amid the unresolved broader debate in this country about immigration issues, the DREAM Act will empower people one by one to turn aspirations into action. It is a vital step forward, and it will change lives. DREAM also helps lay the groundwork for consensus on other fronts in the immigration debate, which can prompt more much-needed progress.

Senator Lugar, your leadership on the issue is deeply appreciated, and I wish to offer my support for this important bill.

Sincerely,

France A. Córdova
President
June 16, 2010

The Honorable Richard Lugar
United States Senate
306 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington DC 20515-1401

Dear Senator Lugar;

As a proud resident of the state of Indiana and as a professional educator, I am contacting you today in support of the DREAM ACT currently under consideration in Congress. I join many other Hoosiers in the belief that this legislation will be of tremendous benefit to our state and our nation.

The DREAM Act presents a tremendous step forward for higher education in Indiana by making a university education accessible to thousands of potential students who would not otherwise be able to pursue post-secondary education. For generations, higher education and the opportunities that come with it, has attracted millions of immigrants to this nation. Education continues to be the primary path to security and success in this nation.

The DREAM Act legislation is being considered at the same time that the Indiana Commission for Higher Education seeks to increase the number of college-educated adults in our state. With an estimated 50,000 – 55,000 illegal immigrants living in Indiana, it has been conservatively projected that about 5 percent, or 2,500 individuals, would enroll in college thanks to this bill. Adding degreed individuals to our state workforce will benefit every Indiana resident. The long-term benefits to the Dream Act are countless.

Education changes lives, it empowers people to move forward. It is up to us to take down the barriers that may prevent students from pursuing post-secondary education so that more students have the opportunity to participate. Senator Lugar, I thank you for your support of this bill that will enable so many residents of our state to pursue the dream of higher education. We will reap the benefits of this legislation for generations to come.

Sincerely,

James B. Dworkin
Chancellor
February 22, 2010

The Honorable Richard Lugar  
United States Senate  
306 Hart Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510  

Dear Senator Lugar:  

On behalf of the entire Saint Mary’s College community, it is my pleasure to provide you with this letter of support for the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act which you have introduced during several previous Congressional sessions. We support your continued efforts to move this important legislation forward and stand ready to assist you in any way that we can.  

Passage of the DREAM Act will provide hardworking individuals, the majority of whom became undocumented aliens while young children, with important incentives and clear guidelines for becoming permanent residents and U.S. citizens. The DREAM Act provides a very fair and humanitarian way to address an important immigration issue and assist young people who have the potential to contribute in a positive way to the growth and future success of our nation.  

This issue is one that impacts a number of our current students and negatively influences the decisions of talented and capable high school students who face a great deal of uncertainty with regard to their future because of their undocumented status. Thank you for all that you are doing to resolve this issue in a manner that will not only benefit the undocumented students who qualify for the proposed program, but also will add to the strength and diversity of our nation.  

Sincerely,  

Carol Ann Mooney  

Saint Mary's College • Notre Dame, Indiana 46556-5001  
Office of the President • Telephone (574) 284-4602 • Fax (574) 284-4800  
saintmarys.edu
June 8, 2009

The Honorable Richard Lugar
United States Senate
306 Hart Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Lugar:

As president of Valparaiso University, it is my privilege to offer my support for the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act which you have cosponsored. This groundbreaking legislation would provide immigrant students an opportunity to work toward permanent residency and citizenship through two years of military service or college attendance. Millions of young people would be positively affected by this legislation. These hardworking and accomplished individuals seek a fair opportunity to become productive citizens of the country they consider home, and the DREAM Act would make that possible.

Each year, almost 70,000 undocumented students graduate from high schools in the United States and experience great difficulty in pursuing employment or higher education opportunities. The inclusive eligibility requirements of the DREAM Act would alleviate these issues by setting clear guidelines for those seeking to become permanent residents and citizens. The realities of the 21st Century global environment compel us to respond to this critical immigration issue in a fair and humanitarian way. Through education and service, these young people will significantly contribute to our society as future leaders in business, government, and the nonprofit sector.

Our country faces many challenges that will ultimately shape America's status as a global economic force. With the enactment of this legislation, we will open the door for a generation of young people to fulfill their dreams of becoming Americans in every sense of the word. The potential impact on Indiana's economy and that of the United States is significant. Our country was founded as a welcoming haven for individuals who want nothing more than to work hard and achieve the American dream for themselves and their families. This legislation will make that dream a reality.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Mark A. Heckler
President

MAH/kum
The Honorable Mary Landrieu  
United States Senate  
328 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Senator Landrieu:

I am writing to urge your support of the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act (S. 729), which Senator Harry Reid will bring up for a vote as an amendment to the Department of Defense authorization bill next week. The DREAM Act would create a pathway through which certain undocumented students could obtain conditional permanent residency and, ultimately, American citizenship.

Every year approximately 65,000 young people graduate from high school in the U.S. but are unable to go to college, work, or join the military because their parents brought them to the U.S. as children without legal documents. Their lack of legal status prevents them from pursuing their dreams and their full human potential. As the president of a university committed to providing young people the education and formation experiences that allow them to realize their God-given potential, I find it a tragedy to senselessly deny opportunity to talented, intelligent, and dedicated students who only know the U.S. as their home.

The DREAM Act enjoys bipartisan support. Education, military, and business leaders support the DREAM Act. A June 2010 national poll by the Opinion Research Corporation found that 70% of adults surveyed supported the DREAM Act. The DREAM Act also makes economic sense and is a great return on our country’s investment in these children’s primary and secondary schooling.

Senator Landrieu, you have long been a champion for children’s issues. Your public support of the DREAM Act could be pivotal for its success. Please support this vital piece of legislation that could bring hope and dignity to so many deserving young people.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

The Rev. Kevin Wildes, S.J., Ph.D.  
President  
17 September 2010
June 11, 2010

The Honorable Scott Brown
United States Senate
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John Kerry
United States Senate
218 Russell Senate Office Building, 2nd Floor
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Brown and Kerry:

I write to express my support for S.729, the Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act.

Widespread access to education and immigration are two of the most significant engines that have fueled the success of our democracy. America has woven new people and new ways of thinking into its social fabric since the founding, and it is that very diversity and inclusivity that has been our nation’s greatest strength in prosperous times and in moments of crisis.

The American education system—and our society as a whole—is predicated on the principle that talent must be able to rise. The DREAM Act removes a needless obstacle to that upward mobility for thousands of children who currently have too few opportunities to complete a level of education that will enable them to contribute fully to our economy and the public good. Our country can ill afford to lose the talents, perspectives, ideas and solutions that may be offered by these bright young people who deserve a pathway to life as engaged and thoughtful American citizens.

I am reassured, as I think the overwhelming majority of Americans will be, that the bill offers robust safeguards to ensure that its beneficiaries are longtime U.S. residents fully invested in the American way of life, that they are law-abiding, engaged in their communities, and that they will only receive a chance at citizenship if they fulfill their obligation to complete an education or a period of military service with honorable discharge. The DREAM Act does not offer a handout, but rather a hand up—a fair chance to fully partake in the benefits of a free and democratic society—to young people who are denied that opportunity through no fault of their own.
I strongly encourage you to further the progress of S.729 and help bring the promise of a college education and the hope of a better life to young people who desperately need it and have much to offer our great nation.

Yours,

Anthony W. Marx

AWM/r1p
September 20, 2010

The Honorable John Kerry
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Scott Brown
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Kerry and Senator Brown:

We understand that the Senate may soon consider the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors or DREAM Act and we write to urge your support for this critical measure that will assist thousands of students in Massachusetts and across the country to reach their full potential and contribute to their home communities.

Each of us is deeply committed to access and believes that education and service are the pathways to better neighbors, stronger communities, and economic growth, as well as personal satisfaction and happiness. The DREAM Act would provide an opportunity for promising students, who through no fault of their own arrived in the United States without legal status as minors and yet are working hard and achieving in our schools and communities, and grant them the temporary legal status that would allow them to pursue a post-secondary education or serve in the military.

There is no doubt that with or without the DREAM Act, these young people will be living, studying, and working to get by in our communities. The DREAM Act will offer them and us the potential of harnessing their full talents on behalf of all of us.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Drew Gilpin Faust
President
Harvard University

Lawrence S. Bacow
President
Tufts University

Robert A. Brown
President
Boston University

Joseph E. Aoun
President
Northeastern University

Susan Hockfield
President
MIT

Jack M. Wilson
President
UMass

Keith Motley
Chancellor
UMass Boston

Fr. William Leahy
President
Boston College
May 18, 2009

The Honorable Edward M. Kennedy
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Kennedy:

I am writing to share with you my strong support for S. 729, the Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act, and to thank you for your co-sponsorship and efforts in behalf of this vitally important legislation.

At Harvard, we have dedicated substantial attention and resources to improve access to higher education—certainly with our own financial aid initiatives for students at Harvard College, but also in our local communities with efforts to support talented students in Boston and Cambridge schools who are seeking higher education. We find that students are working hard, taking high level classes, serving in their communities, and dedicating themselves to their dreams of higher education and to fulfilling the promise of their future. For many, it is not easy with family challenges, under-resourced secondary schools, economic pressures, and myriad other issues, including for a few, immigration status issues.

The DREAM Act would throw a lifeline to these students who are already working hard in our middle and high schools and living in our communities by granting them the temporary legal status that would allow them to pursue postsecondary education. I believe it is in our best interest to educate all students to their full potential—it vastly improves their lives and grows our communities and economy. This bill will help move us closer to this goal.

I greatly appreciate your leadership on this legislation.

Sincerely,

Drew Gilpin Faust

Drew Gilpin Faust
September 20, 2010

The Honorable Scott Brown
United States Senate
317 Russell Office Building
Washington D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Brown:

I am writing to respectfully request your support for the Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act as an amendment to the FY2011 Department of Defense Authorization Act. Salem State University’s mission is to provide a diverse community of learners a high quality, student-centered education; one that prepares them to contribute responsibly and creatively to a global society. As a public institution of higher education, we are committed to affordable education for motivated students. Salem State is also committed to supporting the economic growth of Essex County, Massachusetts and our nation through educating the workforce of the future.

I support the DREAM Act because it will allow accomplished undocumented students who have graduated from American high schools to apply for six-year conditional permanent residency status in order to pursue their post-secondary education or serve in the U.S. military. It would also allow states to set in-state tuition for undocumented students, as it does for all other students who apply to our public institutions.

Salem State is a large comprehensive university that educates the workforce of the future in professions for which our commonwealth and the nation have a great need, including healthcare workers, social workers, entrepreneurs, and teachers. A recent report by the Center for Education and the Workforce at Georgetown University states that by 2018 “we will need 22 million new college degrees to meet employers demands but at current graduation rates, we will fall short of that number by at least 3 million postsecondary degrees, associate or better.” America needs to educate the best and brightest that our high schools have produced, whether they are undocumented, legal immigrants, or native born. Providing a path to legal citizenship for our undocumented American high school educated young men and women so they may pursue a post-secondary degree and become productive, tax-paying members of our society is important to our economic future.

I give you the example of a 19 year old student from the Dominican Republic. Brought to the United States by his family at a young age, he earned his high school diploma from an American high school where he secured a strong GPA and the credentials to be a very well qualified applicant for Salem State University. His efforts and success remain unrewarded, however, because he cannot apply to the university with his current undocumented status. Instead, he is performing menial work wherever he can find it to survive. This young man has no home to return to in the Dominican Republic. The United States is his home, yet here, his talents go wasted.
Salem State University, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and the New England region will benefit from passage of the DREAM Act. I ask you to help us provide access to higher education and citizenship for these students.

Sincerely,

Patricia Maguire Meserve
President

\[1\text{http://cew.georgetown.edu/JO852018/}\]
April 14, 2010

The Honorable Scott Brown
United States Senate
Washington D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Brown:

I am writing to express my support for S. 729, the Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act.

As an institution of higher education that seeks to prepare students for a life of active citizenship in an increasingly interdependent world, Tufts University supports the DREAM Act’s goals of diversity and increased access to higher education. The undocumented immigrant students who would be the major beneficiaries of this legislation have shown their commitment to civic engagement. There are countless examples of undocumented students who excel in school, volunteer in their community, and qualify for financial aid only to discover in their senior year of high school just how limited their prospects are. The results are psychologically and emotionally devastating for over 65,000 students every year.

The DREAM Act would grant undocumented immigrants a six-year grace period during which these students could pursue a college degree or military service. They would be eligible for student loans and work study, alleviating much of the financial burden of higher education. Afterwards, they would be granted a legal permanent residency allowing them to pursue citizenship in the United States. Education is a long-term investment and a powerful weapon in the battle against poverty and ignorance. Let us alleviate the burden imposed under the current law by making higher education accessible to immigrants who take great pride in calling this country their home.

Thank you for your leadership on this important bill.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Lawrence S. Bacow
President
May 25, 2010

Senator Charles Schumer
313 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Schumer:

I am writing to thank you for your support of S.729, the Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act, and for your continued leadership in the Senate on comprehensive immigration reform. On behalf of Columbia University, I offer my strongest endorsement of the DREAM Act, in the belief that it fairly and responsibly addresses an urgent need concerning immigration policy in the United States.

Columbia University is an institution that is dedicated to bringing the benefits of a rigorous and challenging education to any and all young adults who meet its demanding academic requirements. As with many other colleges and universities, it is this commitment which has inspired our need-blind admission policy, which offers unquestionable benefits to the country as a whole. Today the DREAM Act offers a unique opportunity to build on these beliefs by granting promising young students living in the United States as illegal aliens the temporary legal status that would allow them to pursue postsecondary education, and eventually, the chance to qualify for citizenship. Denying young adults this chance deprives our universities of the vitality that diverse student bodies inevitably bring to their campuses. It too deprives our nation and our economy of a new generation of educated, productive Americans.

It is my sincere hope that the DREAM Act be included in any comprehensive immigration reform legislation that emerges from Congress. I am confident in its promise to enrich our higher education community and to strengthen our nation. I thank you for your support and offer my assistance to you and your colleagues as you continue your work on this important issue.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Lee C. Bollinger

cc: Senator Patrick Leahy
    Senator Richard J. Durbin
Honorable Steve Israel  
432 Cannon, House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Israel:

As you may know, the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act is scheduled for a vote early this month. Farmingdale State College joins with institutions of higher education across the country in supporting adoption of this proposed legislation.

DREAM would eliminate a federal provision that penalizes states that provide in-state tuition without regard to immigration status. In essence, the DREAM Act would allow states to determine tuition status of undocumented students. In addition, DREAM would permit certain immigrant students who have grown up in the U.S., have good moral character, and have graduated from a U.S. high school to apply for temporary legal status and to eventually obtain permanent status and become eligible for U.S. citizenship if they go to college or serve in the U.S. military.

DREAM has the support of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities and numerous higher education officials and administrators. AASCU believes that states’ authority over tuition policy must be preserved and respected, and I concur.

I hope you will give your support to this proposed legislation and support DREAM. Thank you.

Sincerely,

W. Hubert Keen, PhD  
President

WHK:ap
April 21, 2010

The Honorable Charles Schumer
United States Senate
313 Senate Hart Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Schumer:

As presidents of several of New York State’s higher education institutions, we want to thank you for the leadership, fairness and integrity you have shown in drafting your bipartisan, four-pillar framework for comprehensive immigration legislation.

We particularly commend you for recognizing and affirming, in your March 18 op-ed in The Washington Post, what we in higher education strongly believe: “Ensuring economic prosperity requires attracting the world’s best and brightest.”

We are grateful that your proposed legislation would award green cards to immigrants who receive a Ph.D. or master’s degree in science, technology, engineering or math from a U.S. university. As you noted, “It makes no sense to educate the world’s future inventors and entrepreneurs and then force them to leave when they are able to contribute to our economy.”

We would also like to take this opportunity to affirm our strong support for federal legislation that would provide a pathway to legal residency — and remove barriers to higher education — for thousands of students who are not legal residents of this country, through no fault of their own.

As you prepare to introduce comprehensive immigration legislation, we urge you to include the bipartisan 2009 DREAM Act — the Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors Act — which provides undocumented immigrant children who graduate from U.S. high schools in good standing with conditional residency status.

This would enable them to enroll in colleges and universities in states that currently do not recognize them and to qualify for some federal and state financial aid benefits as well as in-state tuition.
Currently, undocumented children can only obtain permanent residency through their parents. Many of these students came to this country as infants. This is the only home they have ever known, the only language they speak. They are the products of our excellent primary and secondary educational system and they deserve the right to access our institutions of higher education and become productive and engaged members of our society.

This legislation will correct an injustice perpetrated upon thousands of American students and ultimately will benefit our country. It is the right thing to do and should be done now.

Sincerely,

David J. Skorton
David J. Skorton, President
Cornell University

Matthew Goldstein
Matthew Goldstein, Chancellor
City University of New York

Dr. Samuel J. Stanley, Jr., President
Stony Brook University

Nancy Cantor
Nancy Cantor, Chancellor
Syracuse University

Rev. Joseph M. McShane, SJ, President
Fordham University

John B. Simpson, President
University of Buffalo

Joel Seligman
Joel R. Seligman, President
University of Rochester

John Sexton, President
New York University

Nancy Zimpher, Chancellor
State University of New York
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

June 29, 2010

The Honorable Sherrod Brown
United States Senate
SR-455 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-3505

Dear Senator Brown:

On behalf of Owens Community College and our future students, I write to urge you to cosponsor the Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act (S. 729).

The DREAM Act would do two things to make the future brighter for students who have worked hard, aspire to do more, and in whom Ohio has already invested a great deal of resources. First, the bill would return to the states the decision of whether to extend in-state tuition to undocumented students, where it should be. It does not require states to take any particular action in this area.

The DREAM Act would also establish a six-year conditional permanent residency status for students that were brought to this country before the age of 16, have been here at least five years as of the date the law is enacted, and graduate from a U.S. high school. DREAM-eligible individuals may qualify for permanent residency after six years, and be put on the path to citizenship, by completing at least two years of higher education or military service.

As educators, we also view the DREAM Act is also an important tool for achieving our national goal of returning the United States to world leadership in higher education attainment. Community colleges have been called upon by President Obama and others to play a key role in this daunting challenge. It has been estimated that 65,000 DREAM-eligible students graduate from American high schools each year. These students often have to overcome significant barriers to graduate from high school, and we want to support their aspirations to continue their education and contribute to our economy and society.

The first step to passing this bill is for as many senators as possible to sign on as cosponsors of S. 729. Please consider taking this step. Thank you for your consideration of this issue and for your unending support of Ohio's higher education initiatives.

Sincerely,

Larry McDougall, Ph.D.
President

Cc: Ron Abrams, OACC
    Jim Hermes, AACC
RESOLUTION NO. 548

Development Relief and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act

WHEREAS, it is the role of Lane Community College to provide opportunity for a post-secondary education for all;

WHEREAS, the colleges of the Oregon Community College Association seek to provide affordable and accessible higher education to all individuals seeking a degree or certificate;

WHEREAS, the DREAM Act would provide high achieving high school students who are undocumented, or have undocumented parents, and who wish to serve in the US military or attend a college an opportunity to gain legal status;

WHEREAS, over 48,000 high school students graduate every year and are unable to afford post-secondary education due to their parents' residency status;

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the state of Oregon, both financially and ethically, to provide access for all students who seek a post-secondary education;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of Lane Community College supports the DREAM Act;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of Lane Community College will join students nationwide in actively working to encourage the United States Congress to pass the DREAM Act.

Adopted by the Board of Education this 13th day of January, 2010.

ATTEST:

Mary Spilde, College President/District Clerk
Chair, Lane Community College Board of Education

O:\BOARD\RES#S\Res548 1.10.doc
RESOLUTION

Encouraging the United States Congress
to pass the Development, Relief, Education for Alien Minors Act

WHEREAS, many undocumented children are in the United States without legal immigration status through no fault of their own; and

WHEREAS, countless undocumented children have worked their way through elementary and secondary school, often graduating from American high schools with distinction; and

WHEREAS, education, from pre-school to postsecondary, represents a significant and indispensable investment in the future of our communities, state, country, and people; and

WHEREAS, many states, colleges, and universities, are deterred from offering in-state tuition to qualified undocumented students that have lived in the United States and graduated from American high schools because of provisions in federal law; and

WHEREAS, states, as laboratories of democracy, should be free to tackle the policy concerns facing education which arise from evolving demographics in order to devise creative solutions to challenges of our collective future; and

WHEREAS, in the interest of fairness and the invaluable investment made on behalf of each and every student of our elementary and secondary school systems, regardless of documentation status.

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Oregon State Board of Higher Education encourages the United States Congress to pass the Development, Relief, Education for Alien Minors--DREAM--Act in order to remove provisions in federal law that would, in turn, allow states to examine thoughtfully how to make the dream of postsecondary education for all qualified students a reality.

DATED this 14th Day of May, 2010:

[Signatures]
Paul Kelly, Jr.
President, State Board of Higher Education

Ryan J. Hagemann
Secretary, State Board of Higher Education
May 10, 2010

Honorable Ron Wyden
223 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-3703

Honorable Jeff Merkley
107 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C., 20510

RE: DREAM Act

Dear Senators Wyden and Merkley:

We write to urge your serious consideration to co-sponsor the Development, Relief, Education for Alien Minors Act—otherwise known as the DREAM Act. Passage of this legislation would remove an obstacle facing states, including Oregon, as they grapple with devising strategies to educate as many students as possible—from kindergarten to post-secondary—across our country.

Currently, Oregon, as with all states, offers a free, public education to all students, regardless of documentation status. Undeniably, education represents a significant and indispensable investment in the future of our communities, state, country, and people. With obstacles codified currently in federal law, however, many states and public systems of higher education are deterred from opening the door to a group of qualified undocumented students educated in US high schools. In many instances, these students, due to no fault of their own, were brought to the United States as small children without immigration documentation. Despite this, these students successfully finished school, have positively contributed to their communities, and are poised to continue in colleges and universities across our land. Without the DREAM Act, however, the barriers facing these students—particularly with regard to cost due to lack of access to financial aid or in-state tuition—often proves too much.

States should be free to tackle the policy concerns facing education and demographics and come up with creative solutions to the challenges of our future. For many states, considering their demographics, resources, and investment in their public education system, offering in-state tuition to those that meet certain criteria, such as graduation from an in-state high school and maintaining residency for a certain period of time, might be a wise policy decision. In the interest of fairness and in the spirit of allowing our states to serve as the laboratories of democracy, we urge your co-sponsorship and support of the DREAM Act.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

George Pernsteiner
Chancellor
Oregon University System
May 18, 2010

The Honorable Ron Wyden
United State Senate
230 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Wyden:

I am writing to request your sponsorship of the Development, Relief, Education for Alien Minors Act (DREAM Act). Passage of this legislation will create tuition equity for undocumented residents seeking post secondary education. As the President of Oregon’s largest and most diverse public university, let me assure you that we want these students on our campus and in our classrooms.

With obstacles codified currently in federal law, many states and public systems of higher education are deterred from opening their doors to qualified undocumented students educated in our nation’s high schools. Education is the pathway to success and Oregon is committed to making the initial investment in these students by providing access to primary and secondary education. It is unfortunate that the law prevents us from making higher education equally accessible.

States and institutions need the flexibility to tackle the unique policy concerns facing education in their communities. Offering in-state tuition to those that meet certain criteria is a wise policy decision. I urge you to sponsor and support the DREAM Act.

If you need any further assistance, please contact Mary Moller at 503-725-9818.

Sincerely,

Wim Wiewel
President
May 18, 2010

Honorable Ron Wyden  
U.S. Senate, Oregon  
223 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510-3703

RE: DREAM Act

Dear Senator Wyden:

I write to encourage your consideration to co-sponsor the Development, Relief, Education for Alien Minors Act—otherwise known as the DREAM Act. I understand that we have three Oregon sponsors—Senator Merkley, Representative Wu and Representative Blumenauer. I believe this act is deserving of sponsorship from our entire Oregon delegation.

Southern Oregon University is committed to diversifying our student enrollment. While we continue to see marginal increases in our minority populations, I am convinced we could substantially increase our Latino enrollment if we were able to create strategies such as this to encourage the continued education of this minority population.

With the DREAM ACT, students would have greater access to public higher education regardless of their documentation status. In southern Oregon we see many first-generation Latino students complete high school. Some continue with their education at the local community college. Oregon would benefit greatly from the continued education of more students and the continued contribution of diverse populations in our communities.

Sincerely,

Mary Cullinan  
President, Southern Oregon University
June 15, 2010

Senator Robert P. Casey, Jr.
383 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Casey:

I write on behalf of the Butler County Community College to urge you to cosponsor the Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act (S. 729).

The DREAM Act would do two things to make the future brighter for students who have worked hard, aspire to do more, and in whom the people of Pennsylvania have already invested a great deal of resources. First, the bill would return to the states the decision of whether to extend in-state tuition to undocumented students, where it should be. It does not require states to take any particular action in this area.

The DREAM Act would also establish a six-year conditional permanent residency status for students that were brought to this country before the age of 16, have been here at least five years as of the date the law is enacted, and graduated from a U.S. high school. DREAM-eligible individuals may qualify for permanent residency after six years, and be put on the path to citizenship, by completing at least two years of higher education or military service.

As such, the bill is designed to focus on the special case of undocumented young people that came to this country through no fault of their own, many of whom have no ties to or even memories of the countries from which they came. They consider themselves as American as their classmates, and in most ways they are. We do not traditionally punish people for the actions of others, and the DREAM Act seeks to remedy one situation in which we are doing just that.

As educators, we also view the DREAM Act is also an important tool for achieving our national goal of returning the United States to world leadership in higher education attainment. Community colleges have been called upon by President Obama and others to play a key role in this daunting challenge. It has been estimated that 65,000 DREAM-eligible students graduate from American high schools each year. These students often have to overcome significant barriers to graduate from high school, and we cannot afford to stymie their aspirations to continue their education and contribute to our economy and society.
Congress must pass the DREAM Act this year – we are losing too many future nurses, technicians, inventors and entrepreneurs without it. The first step to passing this bill is for as many senators as possible to sign on as cosponsors of S. 729. I urge you to take that step as soon as possible. Thank you very much for your consideration of this issue.

Sincerely,

Nicholas C. Neupauer
President
June 15, 2010

The Honorable Robert Casey  
United States Senate  
383 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Casey:

On behalf of Montgomery County Community College, I am writing to urge you to cosponsor the Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act (S.729).

The DREAM Act would provide students with an opportunity to return some of the resource investment made by the citizens of Pennsylvania. The bill would return the decision to our state of whether or not to extend in-state tuition to undocumented students. It would not require states to take any specific action in this area. The Act would also establish a six-year conditional permanent residency status for students that were brought to the country before the age of 16, have been here at least five years as of the date the law is enacted, and graduate from a United States high school. DREAM eligible individuals may qualify for permanent residency after six years, and be put on the path to citizenship, by completing at least two years of higher education or military service.

As such, the bill is designed to focus on the special case of undocumented students that came to this country through no fault of their own, many of whom have no ties to or even memories of the countries from which they came. They consider themselves as American as their class mates, and in most ways they are. They desire access to higher education that can ultimately lead them to become successful and productive citizens. It has been estimated that 65,000 DREAM eligible students graduate from American high schools each year. These students often have to overcome significant barriers to graduate from high school, and we cannot afford to further impede their attainment of education.

Montgomery County Community College views the DREAM Act as an important tool for achieving the national goal of returning the United States to world leadership in the attainment of higher education. Community colleges have been called upon by President Obama and others to play a key role in achieving this goal.

Congress must pass the Dream Act this year. We are losing too many future nurses, technicians, inventors and entrepreneurs without it. I respectfully request you take the first step towards passing this bill by signing as a cosponsor of S. 729.

Thank you for your consideration of this important issue.

215-641-6600  
215-641-6647 (Fax)  
340 DeKalb Pike  
Blue Bell, PA 19422

Karen A. Stout  
President

www.mc3.edu
July 28, 2010

The Honorable Robert Casey  
United States Senate  
383 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Casey:

On behalf of the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE), I write to urge you to cosponsor the Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act (S. 729).

The DREAM Act would accomplish several critical goals for Pennsylvania and for the nation. Most important, it gives students an opportunity to continue their education and subsequently return this investment to the Commonwealth by becoming productive, tax-paying citizens. States would be given the choice of extending in-state tuition rates to students who were brought to the United States before the age of 16 and who have been in the United States for at least five years as of the date of the law, and who have graduated from a high school in the United States. No specific action on the part of states would be required.

The DREAM Act also provides a six-year conditional permanent residence status for these students. They may qualify for permanent residency by completing at least two years of higher education or military service. These opportunities would assure that we retain these students after investing heavily in them.

The importance of the DREAM Act is that it focuses on the special case of undocumented children who were brought to the United States by family members or others. Their status is through no fault or deliberate action of their own. Our tradition in this country is to not punish children for the actions of others. Let us give them an opportunity to excel and to do the right thing by providing a pathway to education and citizenship.

PASSHE sees the DREAM Act as a way to help us fulfill our mission of providing access to higher education for the Commonwealth. Let us ensure that Pennsylvania has every opportunity to retain its talent. We have already invested heavily in these students. Let us help them finish what we have started so that they can become successful members of the Commonwealth.
Thank you for your consideration of this important issue.

Sincerely,

John C. Cavanaugh, Ph.D.
Chancellor

C:  Honorable Arlen Specter
September 7, 2010

The Honorable Charles A. Gonzalez
U.S. House of Representative
727 E. Durango Room 124
San Antonio, Texas 78206

Dear Congressman Gonzalez:

I am writing to you today to express my strong support of the DREAM Act (Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors Act of 2009 — S. 729, H. R. 1751).

I serve as President of St. Mary’s University and have taught as a professor of political science for more than forty years. As a native of San Antonio, I join thousands of Texans and fellow Americans in supporting the DREAM Act. This bill would aid certain undocumented immigrant students by giving them the opportunity to earn conditional permanent residency in the United States and thereby contribute to the progress and economic prosperity of this nation.

Today’s global economy depends on a creative, skilled and educated workforce; immigration plays a major role in building and retaining such a workforce. Each year about 65,000 undocumented immigrant children graduate from high school. The United States is their home and the only country they have ever known. Passage of the DREAM Act would allow these students to continue their college education and allow them to earn conditional permanent residency in America, allowing them to live, work and contribute legally to our nation.

I have had the opportunity to meet some of the young undocumented immigrants who would be positively affected by the DREAM Act. Ms. Benita Vellz, a St. Mary’s alumna, is one of those whom I have met. She graduated as valedictorian from Thomas Jefferson High School in San Antonio. While she was not eligible for any governmental aid, she earned scholarships and graduated with academic distinction with a double major in biology and sociology. Her next goal was law school, but because of her immigration status, she does not qualify for federal or state financial aid or loans. As you know, Benita is now facing deportation back to Mexico, a country she has not known or visited since eight years of age. I am proud to say that a group of civicly engaged St. Mary’s students quickly mobilized a letter and phone campaign and Benita now has the support of people who have come to her aid. Benita’s situation symbolizes the plight of tens of thousands of other undocumented immigrant students who must await congressional and presidential action to prevent deportation to countries that are truly foreign to them.

As a member of Congress, you are much more aware than I of the United States’ workforce needs in a globalized economy. The case for passage of the DREAM Act does not, however, rest
solely on economic needs. In recent testimony before Congress, Bishop Kicanas of Tucson, Arizona urged swift federal action on immigration reform, including passage of the DREAM Act. He testified that “immigration is ultimately a humanitarian issue, since it impacts the basic rights and dignity of millions of persons and their families. As such, it has moral implications.” The DREAM Act addresses not only economic needs of our country, it is a proposed legislative act that recognizes the justice in allowing these young people the lawful right to earn permanent residency in the country known as home to them.

The DREAM Act recognizes that sovereign nations have the right to control their borders. With the Act’s passage, the conditions to earning permanent residency and legal status must be earned and are clearly defined: Students must have graduated from a U.S. high school, be of good moral character, have arrived in the U.S. before the age of 16 and have been in the country continuously for at least five years prior to the act’s enactment. Clearly, passage of the Dream Act would signify through congressional action the United States’ right to control its borders through national legislation that is economically beneficial and morally just. I urge you to expedite passage of the DREAM Act as part of a bipartisan effort to address comprehensive immigration reform.

Thank you for your attention to this important national priority.

Cordially,

Charles L. Cotrell

Charles L. Cotrell, Ph.D.
President
Professor of Political Science
September 7, 2010

The Honorable Henry Cuellar
U.S. House of Representatives
615 E. Houston Street, Suite 451
San Antonio, Texas 78205

Dear Congressman Cuellar:

I am writing to you today to express my strong support of the DREAM Act (Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors Act of 2009 — S. 729, H. R. 1751).

I serve as President of St. Mary’s University and have taught as a professor of political science for more than forty years. As a native of San Antonio, I join thousands of Texans and fellow Americans in supporting the DREAM Act. This bill would aid certain undocumented immigrant students by giving them the opportunity to earn conditional permanent residency in the United States and thereby contribute to the progress and economic prosperity of this nation.

Today’s global economy depends on a creative, skilled and educated workforce; immigration plays a major role in building and retaining such a workforce. Each year about 65,000 undocumented immigrant children graduate from high school. The United States is their home and the only country they have ever known. Passage of the DREAM Act would allow these students to continue their college education and allow them to earn conditional permanent residency in America, allowing them to live, work and contribute legally to our nation.

I have had the opportunity to meet some of the young undocumented immigrants who would be positively affected by the DREAM Act. Ms. Benita Veliz, a St. Mary’s alumna, is one of those whom I have met. She graduated as valedictorian from Thomas Jefferson High School in San Antonio. While she was not eligible for any governmental aid, she earned scholarships and graduated with academic distinction with a double major in biology and sociology. Her next goal was law school, but because of her immigration status, she does not quality for federal or state financial aid or loans. Benita is now facing deportation back to Mexico, a country she has not known or visited since eight years of age. I am proud to say that a group of civically engaged St. Mary’s students quickly mobilized a letter and phone campaign and Benita now has the support of Congressman Charlie Gonzalez, who has come to her aid. Benita’s situation symbolizes the plight of tens of thousands of other undocumented immigrant students who must await congressional and presidential action to prevent deportation to countries that are truly foreign to them.

As a member of Congress, you are much more aware than I of the United States’ workforce needs in a globalized economy. The case for passage of the DREAM Act does not, however, rest solely on economic needs. In recent testimony before Congress, Bishop Kicanas of Tucson,
Arizona urged swift federal action on immigration reform, including passage of the DREAM Act. He testified that “immigration is ultimately a humanitarian issue, since it impacts the basic rights and dignity of millions of persons and their families. As such, it has moral implications.” The DREAM Act addresses not only economic needs of our country, it is a proposed legislative act that recognizes the justice in allowing these young people the lawful right to earn permanent residency in the country known as home to them.

The DREAM Act recognizes that sovereign nations have the right to control their borders. With the Act’s passage, the conditions to earning permanent residency and legal status must be earned and are clearly defined: Students must have graduated from a U.S. high school, be of good moral character, have arrived in the U.S. before the age of 16 and have been in the country continuously for at least five years prior to the act’s enactment. Clearly, passage of the Dream Act would signify through congressional action the United States’ right to control its borders through national legislation that is economically beneficial and morally just. I urge you to expedite passage of the DREAM Act as part of a bipartisan effort to address comprehensive immigration reform.

Thank you for your attention to this important national priority.

Cordially,

Charles L. Cotrell

Charles L. Cotrell, Ph.D.
President
Professor of Political Science
September 7, 2010

The Honorable Ciro Rodriguez
U.S. House of Representatives
1313 S. E. Military Dr. Suite 101
San Antonio, Texas 78214

Dear Congressman Rodriguez:

I am writing to you today to express my strong support of the DREAM Act (Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors Act of 2009 – S. 729, H. R. 1751).

I serve as President of St. Mary’s University and have taught as a professor of political science for more than forty years. As a native of San Antonio, I join thousands of Texans and fellow Americans in supporting the DREAM Act. This bill would aid certain undocumented immigrant students by giving them the opportunity to earn conditional permanent residency in the United States and thereby contribute to the progress and economic prosperity of this nation.

Today’s global economy depends on a creative, skilled and educated workforce; immigration plays a major role in building and retaining such a workforce. Each year about 65,000 undocumented immigrant children graduate from high school. The United States is their home and the only country they have ever known. Passage of the DREAM Act would allow these students to continue their college education and allow them to earn conditional permanent residency in America, allowing them to live, work and contribute legally to our nation.

I have had the opportunity to meet some of the young undocumented immigrants who would be positively affected by the DREAM Act. Ms. Benita Veliz, a St. Mary’s alumna, is one of those whom I have met. She graduated as valedictorian from Thomas Jefferson High School in San Antonio. While she was not eligible for any governmental aid, she earned scholarships and graduated with academic distinction with a double major in biology and sociology. Her next goal was law school, but because of her immigration status, she does not qualify for federal or state financial aid or loans. Benita is now facing deportation back to Mexico, a country she has not known or visited since eight years of age. I am proud to say that a group of civicly engaged St. Mary’s students quickly mobilized a letter and phone campaign and Benita now has the support of Congressman Charlie Gonzalez, who has come to her aid. Benita’s situation symbolizes the plight of tens of thousands of other undocumented immigrant students who must await congressional and presidential action to prevent deportation to countries that are truly foreign to them.
Page 2  
September 7, 2010  
Dream Act  

As a member of Congress, you are much more aware than I of the United States’ workforce needs in a globalized economy. The case for passage of the DREAM Act does not, however, rest solely on economic needs. In recent testimony before Congress, Bishop Kicanas of Tucson, Arizona urged swift federal action on immigration reform, including passage of the DREAM Act. He testified that “immigration is ultimately a humanitarian issue, since it impacts the basic rights and dignity of millions of persons and their families. As such, it has moral implications.” The DREAM Act addresses not only economic needs of our country, it is a proposed legislative act that recognizes the justice in allowing these young people the lawful right to earn permanent residency in the country known as home to them.

The DREAM Act recognizes that sovereign nations have the right to control their borders. With the Act’s passage, the conditions to earning permanent residency and legal status must be earned and are clearly defined: Students must have graduated from a U.S. high school, be of good moral character, have arrived in the U.S. before the age of 16 and have been in the country continuously for at least five years prior to the act’s enactment. Clearly, passage of the Dream Act would signify through congressional action the United States’ right to control its borders through national legislation that is economically beneficial and morally just. I urge you to expedite passage of the DREAM Act as part of a bipartisan effort to address comprehensive immigration reform.

Thank you for your attention to this important national priority.

Cordially,

Charles L. Cotrell

Charles L. Cotrell, Ph.D.  
President  
Professor of Political Science
March 22, 2010

Senator Mark Warner
919 E. Main St.
Suite 630
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Senator Warner:

I write to encourage you to support the Dream Act legislation (HR 1751) and to express my support for the bill.

This bill, if enacted, would create a pathway to earned citizenship for undocumented students of good moral character who arrived in the United States before they were 16, graduated from a U.S. high school, lived in the U.S. for at least five consecutive years, and serve in the military or attend college for at least two years. This bill acknowledges that these young students had no choice in their parents’ decision of bringing them to the U.S. at a very young age, and it also recognizes that these young students who would be beneficiaries are American in practically every sense of the word.

I had a meeting in the past hour with an EMU graduate who represents the kind of individuals that would benefit from the passage of this legislation. Isabel has resided in the U.S. for 19 years. She graduated high school with a 4.0 GPA and wanted very much to attend college. Because her parents were not documented she could not gain access to many sources of financial aid. Nevertheless, Isabel worked for a year to save money and then completed a degree in Social Work at EMU in 3 ½ years, graduating magna cum laude. Unfortunately, her status does not allow her to obtain employment commensurate with her skills and training.

The City of Harrisonburg unanimously passed a resolution on February 23, 2010, supporting this legislation. I hope that you will co-sponsor the bill as it will help thousands of talented law-abiding young adults, who only know the U.S as their home, to achieve their American Dream.

Sincerely,

Loren Swartzendruber
President

Harrisonburg
VA 22802-2462
(540) 432-4100
March 22, 2010

Senator Jim Webb
507 East Franklin Street
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Senator Webb:

I write to encourage you to support the Dream Act legislation (HR 1751) and to express my support for the bill.

This bill, if enacted, would create a pathway to earned citizenship for undocumented students of good moral character who arrived in the United States before they were 16, graduated from a U.S. high school, lived in the U.S. for at least five consecutive years, and serve in the military or attend college for at least two years. This bill acknowledges that these young students had no choice in their parents’ decision of bringing them to the U.S. at a very young age, and it also recognizes that these young students who would be beneficiaries are American in practically every sense of the word.

I had a meeting in the past hour with an BMU graduate who represents the kind of individuals that would benefit from the passage of this legislation. Isabel has resided in the U.S. for 19 years. She graduated high school with a 4.0 GPA and wanted very much to attend college. Because her parents were not documented she could not gain access to many sources of financial aid. Nevertheless, Isabel worked for a year to save money and then completed a degree in Social Work at BMU in 3 ½ years, graduating magna cum laude. Unfortunately, her status does not allow her to obtain employment commensurate with her skills and training.

The City of Harrisonburg unanimously passed a resolution on February 23, 2010, supporting this legislation. I hope that you will co-sponsor the bill as it will help thousands of talented law-abiding young adults, who only know the U.S. as their home, to achieve their American Dream.

Sincerely,

Loren Swartzendruber
President

Harrisonburg
VA 22802-2462
(540) 432-4100
March 22, 2010

Representative Bob Goodlatte
2 South Main Street, Suite A
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Dear Representative Goodlatte:

I write to encourage you to support the Dream Act legislation (HR 1751) and to express my support for the bill.

This bill, if enacted, would create a pathway to earned citizenship for undocumented students of good moral character who arrived in the United States before they were 16, graduated from a U.S. high school, lived in the U.S. for at least five consecutive years, and serve in the military or attend college for at least two years. This bill acknowledges that these young students had no choice in their parents’ decision of bringing them to the U.S. at a very young age, and it also recognizes that these young students who would be beneficiaries are American in practically every sense of the word.

I had a meeting in the past hour with an EMU graduate who represents the kind of individuals that would benefit from the passage of this legislation. Isabel has resided in the U.S. for 19 years. She graduated high school with a 4.0 GPA and wanted very much to attend college. Because her parents were not documented she could not gain access to many sources of financial aid. Nevertheless, Isabel worked for a year to save money and then completed a degree in Social Work at EMU in 3 1/2 years, graduating magna cum laude. Unfortunately, her status does not allow her to obtain employment commensurate with her skills and training.

The City of Harrisonburg unanimously passed a resolution on February 23, 2010, supporting this legislation. I hope that you will co-sponsor the bill as it will help thousands of talented law-abiding young adults, who only know the U.S. as their home, to achieve their American Dream.

Sincerely,

Loren Swartzendruber
President

Harrisonburg
VA 22802-2462
(540) 432-4100
The Honorable Mark R. Warner  
US Senate  
459A Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Warner:

I am writing to express my support for the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors Act (DREAM, S. 729), and to urge you to cosponsor this important bill.

As you know, approximately 65,000 students graduate from American high schools each year with limited prospect of attending college or joining the legal workforce because of their immigration status. The DREAM act would grant conditional legal status to students, here through no fault of their own, who find themselves at this dead end. Besides the moral imperative, there are several economic reasons why the DREAM act will benefit the State of Virginia and the United States.

The passage of the DREAM act will drive increased revenues and reduced costs to Virginia. Based on a 1999 RAND study, it is estimated that an average 30-year-old Mexican immigrant woman who has graduated from college will pay $5,300 more in taxes and costs $3,900 less per year in criminal justice and welfare expenses compared to her dropped-out counterpart. This would be a direct contribution to states' strained bottom line.

Further, the DREAM act would expand the educated, legal workforce. An expanded workforce will not only attract businesses to Virginia but will also address chronic long-term labor needs that economists predict will threaten our economy in the near future. These needs include teachers, nurses, and service employees. The DREAM act will address a current labor market inefficiency that diverts workforce away from where the demands are towards the shadow, cash economy.

President Obama, recently emphasized the administration’s goal to cut high school dropout rates and challenged states to meet that goal. The DREAM act would reduce the dropout rates of immigrant students which represent a growing proportion of the overall student population. Presented with the opportunity to continue their education and the incentive of attaining legal status, foreign born students are less likely to dropout of school.

If I can be of help in your decision to co-sponsor this bill, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Robert G. Templin, Jr.  
President

Office of the President  
4001 Wakefield Chapel Road, Annandale, VA 22003-3796  
Phone: 703-523-3101 | Fax: 703-523-3767  
www.nvcc.edu
May 28, 2010

The Honorable Jim Webb
US Senate
248 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Webb:

I am writing to express my support for the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors Act (DREAM, S. 729), and to urge you to cosponsor this important bill.

As you know, approximately 65,000 students graduate from American high schools each year with limited prospect of attending college or joining the legal workforce because of their immigration status. The DREAM act would grant conditional legal status to students, here through no fault of their own, who find themselves at this dead end. Besides the moral imperative, there are several economic reasons why the DREAM act will benefit the State of Virginia and the United States.

The passage of the DREAM act will drive increased revenues and reduced costs to Virginia. Based on a 1999 RAND study, it is estimated that an average 30-year-old Mexican immigrant woman who has graduated from college will pay $5,300 more in taxes and costs $3,900 less per year in criminal justice and welfare expenses compared to her dropped-out counterpart. This would be a direct contribution to states’ strained bottom line.

Further, the DREAM act would expand the educated, legal workforce. An expanded workforce will not only attract businesses to Virginia but will also address chronic long-term labor needs that economists predict will threaten our economy in the near future. These needs include teachers, nurses, and service employees. The DREAM act will address a current labor market inefficiency that diverts workforce away from where the demands are towards the shadow, cash economy.

President Obama, recently emphasized the administration’s goal to cut high school dropout rates and challenged states to meet that goal. The DREAM act would reduce the dropout rates of immigrant students which represent a growing proportion of the overall student population. Presented with the opportunity to continue their education and the incentive of attaining legal status, foreign born students are less likely to dropout of school.

If I can be of help in your decision to co-sponsor this bill, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely

[Signature]

Robert G. Templin, Jr.
President
June 3, 2010

United States Senator Maria Cantwell
U. S. Federal Courthouse
W. 920 Riverside, Suite 697
Spokane, WA 99201

Dear Senator Cantwell:

I would like to offer this letter of support for the consideration and passage of the Development, Relief and Education of Alien Minors Act, also called the DREAM Act. The passage of this Act would positively impact a large number of students in the State of Washington who are attempting to improve their community by gaining an education.

Although Washington State currently allows in-state tuition for qualified undocumented students, without provisions similar to those found in the DREAM Act, those same graduating students have no chance to legalize their status and thereby attain meaningful employment or careers in this country.

These are students who have lived in this country for most of their lives, speak English, have little or no connection with their countries of birth, and are faced with great financial need. The DREAM Act, or similar legislation, would help address this inequity.

I encourage you to support the provision of the DREAM Act and thus provide an avenue for these students to continue to contribute to the betterment of the State of Washington and the United State of America. Eastern Washington University is committed to assisting these students become productive citizens who will support the economic development of the State.

Sincerely,

Rodolfo Arévalo, Ph.D.
President

RA: cgg
June 3, 2010

Senator Patty Murray  
10 North Post, Suite 625  
Spokane, WA 99201

Dear Senator Murray:

I would like to offer this letter of support for the consideration and passage of the Development, Relief and Education of Alien Minors Act, also called the DREAM Act. The passage of this Act would positively impact a large number of students in the State of Washington who are attempting to improve their community by gaining an education.

Although Washington State currently allows in-state tuition for qualified undocumented students, without provisions similar to those found in the DREAM Act, those same graduating students have no chance to legalize their status and thereby attain meaningful employment or careers in this country.

These are students who have lived in this country for most of their lives, speak English, have little or no connection with their countries of birth, and are faced with great financial need. The DREAM Act, or similar legislation, would help address this inequity.

I encourage you to support the provision of the DREAM Act and thus provide an avenue for these students to continue to contribute to the betterment of the State of Washington and the United State of America. Eastern Washington University is committed to assisting these students become productive citizens who will support the economic development of the State.

Sincerely,

Rodolfo Arévalo, Ph.D.  
President

RA:egg
June 3, 2010

Congresswoman Cathy McMorris Rodgers
10 North Post, Suite 600
Spokane, WA 99201

Dear Congresswoman McMorris Rodgers:

I would like to offer this letter of support for the consideration and passage of the Development, Relief and Education of Alien Minors Act, also called the DREAM Act. The passage of this Act would positively impact a large number of students in the State of Washington who are attempting to improve their community by gaining an education.

Although Washington State currently allows in-state tuition for qualified undocumented students, without provisions similar to those found in the DREAM Act, those same graduating students have no chance to legalize their status and thereby attain meaningful employment or careers in this country.

These are students who have lived in this country for most of their lives, speak English, have little or no connection with their countries of birth, and are faced with great financial need. The DREAM Act, or similar legislation, would help address this inequity.

I encourage you to support the provision of the DREAM Act and thus provide an avenue for these students to continue to contribute to the betterment of the State of Washington and the United State of America. Eastern Washington University is committed to assisting these students become productive citizens who will support the economic development of the State.

Sincerely,

Rodolfo Arévalo, Ph.D.
President

RA: cgg
June 4, 2010

Senator Charles E. Schumer
313 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Senator Lindsey Graham
290 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Richard J. Durbin
309 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Richard G. Lugar
306 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators Schumer, Graham, Durbin and Lugar:

Recently you received a letter signed by a broad coalition of university and college presidents from across the country in support of The DREAM Act of 2009. To that end, we are writing to join the coalition in support of passage of The DREAM Act, either as stand-alone legislation or as part of comprehensive immigration reform.

We recognize that this is part of a larger set of complex policy matters, but believe this is a step we must take to create the educated workforce America needs to compete in a global economy.

According to the National Immigration Law Center, approximately 65,000 U.S. high school graduates face significant barriers to college each year because of their immigration status. They are denied federal financial aid, and state aid in some cases, and also may be forced to pay non-resident tuition rates in states where they have resided for years. That’s 65,000 people who might otherwise use their college education to contribute to our nation’s economic resurgence. By allowing these roadblocks to remain, we are ignoring an untapped source of talent.

The DREAM Act would let students apply for legal status and provide a path to citizenship if they graduate from U.S. high schools after living in the country for a time. The legislation would also allow equal access to our universities. This is consistent with a recently enacted Wisconsin law that lets non-U.S. citizens, who have lived in Wisconsin, attend public universities and
colleges at resident rates. To qualify, students must live in Wisconsin for at least three consecutive years, graduate from a Wisconsin high school, and promise to pursue legal residency or citizenship.

The DREAM Act is also consistent with UW System’s Growth Agenda for Wisconsin, a strategic effort to develop the state’s human potential, create new Wisconsin jobs, and strengthen local communities. Furthermore, the legislation fits well with our commitment to inclusive excellence, and the belief that all people deserve an opportunity to benefit from a college education.

We are pleased that The DREAM Act has the strong backing of both Wisconsin Sen. Herb Kohl and Sen. Russ Feingold. We hope that you will join them and other legislators in supporting families that are pursuing educational opportunities as a pathway toward their own American dream.

Sincerely,

Kevin P. Reilly
President, UW System

Michael J. Spector
Vice President, UW Board of Regents

Brent Smith
Member, UW Board of Regents

Jeffrey B. Bartell
Member, UW Board of Regents

John Drew
Member, UW Board of Regents

Mark J. Bradley
Member, UW Board of Regents

Charles R. Pruitt
President, UW Board of Regents

José F. Vásquez
Member, UW Board of Regents

Danae D. Davis
Member, UW Board of Regents

Judith V. Crain
Member, UW Board of Regents

Thomas Loftus
Member, UW Board of Regents

Jessica Schwalenberg
Member, UW Board of Regents
Senators Schumer, Graham, Durbin and Lugar
June 4, 2010
Page 3

David G. Walsh
Member, UW Board of Regents

Tony Evers
Member, UW Board of Regents

Edmund Manydeeds
Member, UW Board of Regents

cc:
U.S. Senator Herb Kohl
U.S. Senator Russ Feingold
UW System Chancellors
UW System President’s Cabinet