



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF PROFESSIONAL & TECHNICAL ENGINEERS AFL-CIO & CLC

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December 15, 2010

Dear Senator,

It is our understanding that the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act could come before the Senate again as early as this weekend. As President of the International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers (IFPTE), I urge you to vote in support of both cloture and the underlying bill.

The DREAM Act is a bipartisan bill that will allow thousands of students who were brought to the United States as young children to achieve citizenship. The bill will allow for a pathway to citizenship for those who agree to go to college or join the military. Not only have these young people grown up here in our nation virtually their entire lives, they are also what we all expect of high school students. They are high achievers, ambitious, and dedicated to our country. These young people become scholars, athletes, scientists, engineers, artists and yes, even soldiers defending our nation. Just as our own children, they strive to achieve the American dream each and every day.

Most of these students were brought to the United States by their parents and have been here and attended school in communities across our nation for most of their lives. However, unlike most of their peers seeking to attend college or enter the military, the doors are essentially shut tight for these individuals. Most have limited ability to move on to college because of little to no access to scholarships and other financial aid available to most students. Also, these are young people who live in constant fear that they could be stripped away from the only home they have ever known with as little as a moment's notice.

At our most recent Convention last year IFPTE Delegates unanimously approved a resolution confirming our union's "commitment to passage of the Federal DREAM Act." IFPTE passed this resolution because we believe that it is our nation's moral responsibility to provide these young people with the same opportunities and protections that most students enjoy. America is not a place where we should allow law abiding, successful young people to live in fear and as second class citizens due to no fault of their own.

In addition to the moral imperative, there is also a very compelling economic argument to consider. A recent study by the UCLA North American Integration and Development Center showed the total earnings of DREAM Act beneficiaries over the course of their working lives would generate about \$1.4 trillion to \$3.6 trillion over a 40-year period.

This is a long overdue bill. While we would prefer that this bill also be extended to all people brought here as young children, we nonetheless feel that this is an important step in the right direction. For these reasons, IFPTE urges you to support The DREAM Act.

Sincerely,

Gregory J. Junemann,
President

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

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