VOICES FOR UTAH Children

An organization that speaks out on behalf of Utah's children

November 22, 2010

The Honorable Orrin G. Hatch
104 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 205102

Dear Senator Hatch,

Next week the Senate will have the opportunity to consider the DREAM Act as a stand-alone bill. I am writing to ask your support for this legislation which would allow "kids without a country" to attain legal status by attending 2 years of college or performing 2 years of military service.

The DREAM Act is a crucial part of the kind of real, comprehensive immigration reform our country needs right now to get back on its feet and restore justice to our laws.

The DREAM Act would strengthen the economy down the line by making sure that students educated in American schools can give back to the system through their hard work, service, and taxes.

In 2001, you introduced the DREAM Act after becoming aware of the plight of a Utah student, Silvia Salguero. You may remember that at the age of 13, Silvia had fled her native Mexico with her father and three siblings to join her mother and other family members in Utah. In 2001, Silvia and her teachers were unaware that her background would pose a problem at college. She seemed to have everything she needed to succeed: a 3.2 grade-point average, a letter of admission to the University of Utah and $4,000 in scholarships – everything, except a Social Security number.

Silvia Salguero still needs your help, as do thousands of other promising students. We urge that you take advantage of **this** opportunity to pass this critical legislation. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Karen

Karen Crompton
Executive Director

747 E. South Temple, Suite 100, Salt Lake City, UT 84102
P (801) 364-1182 - F (801) 364-1186 - www.utahchildren.org

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November 22, 2010

The Honorable Bob Bennett
431 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 205102-4403

Dear Senator Bennett,

Next week the Senate will have the opportunity to consider the DREAM Act as a stand-alone bill. I am writing to ask your support for this legislation which would allow "kids without a country" to attain legal status by attending 2 years of college or performing 2 years of military service.

The DREAM Act is a crucial part of the kind of real, comprehensive immigration reform our country needs right now to get back on its feet and restore justice to our laws.

The DREAM Act would strengthen the economy down the line by making sure that students educated in American schools can give back to the system through their hard work, service, and taxes.

Every year that Congress fails to act, another entire class of outstanding high school students will graduate without being able to plan for the future, and some may even be removed from their homes to countries they barely know. These are kids who want to be doctors, lawyers, and public servants. They have overcome tremendous obstacles – language barriers, poverty, and public anger – to earn the privilege of sitting in lecture hall. And they are fully, painfully aware what a privilege it is.

I urge that you take advantage of this opportunity to pass this critical legislation. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Karen

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