PRINCIPALS COMMITTEE
DEFERRED ACTION FOR CHILDHOOD ARRIVALS

Date: August 24, 2017
Location: Roosevelt Room
Time: 4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Summary of Conclusions

It was agreed that:

The previous Administration’s Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program is unlawful and will be ended. That will be achieved by ceasing the acceptance of applications for new permits while allowing existing permits to remain effective until they expire.

Although it is clear that existing DACA permits will not be revoked, a detailed plan to wind down the DACA program must still be developed. Implementation issues—such as addressing pending applications—will be worked out through consultation among the White House, the Department of Justice (DOJ), and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) (and, to the extent necessary, the plaintiffs who have threatened a legal challenge against the DACA program).

The DOJ will send a memorandum to DHS outlining the legal reasons that the DACA program is unlawful on or before September 1, 2017. After DHS withdraws the 2012 DACA memorandum (see next paragraph), the DOJ will inform the plaintiffs threatening to challenge the DACA program that it has ended. The parties will jointly move to dismiss the case by September 5, 2017. (Action: DOJ; ongoing through September 5, 2017.)

DHS will draft a memorandum to withdraw the 2012 DACA memorandum, and any related memoranda or guidance, in light of DOJ’s legal determination. DHS will then propose a plan to wind down the DACA program. The plan will specify that DHS will no longer accept or grant applications for DACA but that those individuals who, on the date of the DHS rescission memorandum, had been granted deferred action pursuant to the DACA program may retain their existing employment authorization documents until the permits’ expiration dates. DHS will publish this memorandum on or before September 1, 2017. (Action: DHS; ongoing through September 1, 2017.)

The Domestic Policy Council (DPC), DHS, DOJ, and the Department of State will develop a unified list of legislative items that will enhance interior enforcement, protect public safety, and advance the national interest. The President may consider signing legislation that addresses individuals who had previously been eligible to receive DACA permits. (Action: DPC; unified list of proposals due to agencies by September 1, 2017.)