

BERKELEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Resolution 18-005 in Support of DACA Legislation

WHEREAS: The Board of Education embraces the diversity of our students, families and staff and the rich language and cultural assets they bring to our District and strongly supports and encourages the participation of all parents and families in our schools; and

WHEREAS: In 2012 President Obama issued an Executive Order that gave certain undocumented immigrants who were brought to the United States by their parents as a child and entered the U.S before their 16th birthday--commonly referred to as "Dreamers" -- relief to deportation and the ability to live, work, and study in the U.S. for a period of two years, subject to renewal. The program is known as Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA); and

WHEREAS: DACA has protected nearly 800,000 people, approximately 20,000 DACA recipients work as teachers and more than 217,000 DACA recipients live in California; and

WHEREAS: President Donald Trump announced a rescission of DACA but has allowed for a six-month window during which Congress can pass new legislation that would protect those who rely on the program; and

WHEREAS: All students in California have a right to attend public schools regardless of their immigration status and California's school districts have invested valuable resources in our State's DACA recipients, and they in turn have responded by successfully continuing their education and by making important contributions to the workforce and society.

WHEREAS: Our Board of Education believes that each student deserves to be treated with respect and as a valuable human -- with hopes, dreams, aspirations, and goals -- and that each DACA recipient should be allowed to fulfill those dreams in the United States of America.

WHEREAS: The proposed rescission of DACA will deny our schools and communities many very bright and highly motivated students, parents, teachers and staff who are making invaluable contributions; and

WHEREAS: The consequences of this decision will result in fear and uncertainty for many of the families and students we serve as well as for staff members and community volunteers and would cause a significant disruption to the learning environment and education setting for students.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Berkeley Board of Education urges President Trump and his administration to preserve the DACA program and urges members of Congress, including our own senators and representatives, to take bipartisan action to pass legislation that provides DACA recipients the permanent solution they deserve and end the uncertainty they face.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Board directs the Superintendent to post this Resolution on the District website, with appropriate translation, and to distribute copies to both California senators as well as the District's congressional representative.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Education this 27th day of September 2017.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Beatriz Leyva-Cutler, Clerk
Board of Education