

THE NEW ENGLAND COUNCIL

October 2, 2017

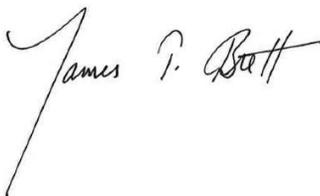
To the Members of the New England Congressional Delegation:

Thank you for your recent words of support for the thousands of young people here in New England and beyond who are currently protected under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. We write today to express our concern for these young men and women, and to urge you and your colleagues in Congress to develop a legislative solution to ensure that these individuals are safeguarded against deportation.

As you know, here in New England, nearly 15,000 people participate in the DACA program. They were brought to this country by their families as children, and not by their own choosing. But once here in the US, they are making the most of the opportunity to pursue the American dream. They are students at our regions' many colleges and universities, where they are working hard to gain an education that they may not have had access to in their native lands. They are valued members of our region's workforce, where they are contributing their skills in the industries that drive our region's economy—healthcare, technology, financial services, and others. And of course, many of these young adults serve our nation—for many the only nation they have known—as courageous members of our armed services. In short, these “Dreamers” are an integral part of our communities and our economy.

We understand that DACA is not a long-term solution, and that this is an issue that must be addressed through the legislative process. We believe it is in the best interest of our region to establish a means to grant permanent protections to these valued members of our New England community. Please know that you have our support as you and your colleagues work toward this goal in the weeks and months ahead.

Sincerely,



James T. Brett
President & CEO

The New England Council

98 North Washington Street, Suite 201 • Boston, Massachusetts 02114 • (617) 723-4009

331 Constitution Avenue, NE • Washington, DC 20002 • (202) 547-0048

www.newenglandcouncil.com