



Pennsylvania Immigration and Citizenship Coalition

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Dear Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and Members of Congress

The recent announcement on the introduction of the Dream and Promise Act, HR 6 is welcome news to the state of Pennsylvania, especially people impacted by Temporary Protected Status (TPS), Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), and Deferred Enforced Departure (DED), and their extended family, friends, and community members who are deeply concerned. Pennsylvania's demographics are constantly changing and growing, and the immigrant and refugee community is woven deeply and intricately into every aspect of the state. According to the latest census data, over 800,000 Pennsylvanians were born outside of the United States and close to 1 million have at least one first generation immigrant parent. Pennsylvania's immigrant and second generation immigrant communities have relied on the promise of a welcoming America, building strong communities in our state. HR6 is going in the right direction for the future of Pennsylvania by providing a pathway to permanent legal status for the thousands of DACA, TPS, and DED recipients, and the promise of stability to their families and communities.,

Immigrants and refugees are one of the driving forces behind Pennsylvania's growing population in both urban and rural areas. From Hazleton to Philadelphia, immigrants have helped revitalize local economies by opening businesses, buying homes, and bringing new vibrancy to areas in decline. Immigrants and refugees are also the backbone of Pennsylvania's agricultural sector, which relies heavily on immigrant labor. More and more first generation Pennsylvanians are naturalizing to become citizens, registering to vote and voting - New American voters make up approximately 5% of voters in the state.

By fully welcoming our immigrant and refugee neighbors, we can only become stronger as a state, ready to take on the challenges of today and tomorrow. Our immigrant neighbors, including undocumented community members, holders of DACA, TPS, and DED, and refugee community members are Pennsylvanians and Americans in every definition, except on paper. By providing a clear pathway to permanent legal status for these members of our community, you can help transform the whole state to reach the potential of a bright future for all. We urge you to support HR 6.

To hear directly from impacted community members themselves, or to learn more of their stories, please reach out to our office at your earliest convenience. Thank you for hearing the voices of Pennsylvania constituents and their concerns.

Sundrop Carter
Executive Director

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