

ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 6-027

A RESOLUTION TO CALL ON PRESIDENT OBAMA TO TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT DACA IMMIGRANT YOUTH

WHEREAS, The Central Student Government recently passed a resolution in which it declared its support for the continuation of the DACA program¹; **AND**

WHEREAS, In June 2012, President Obama enacted a new immigration plan through an Executive Order, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) that offered about two million undocumented youth a new and special legal status that offered new rights and opportunities, such as the right to obtain a driver's license, a work permit, a social security number that could be used to apply for grants and scholarships, and the ability to leave the country and return free from detention, and protection from deportation while enrolled.²

WHEREAS, To qualify for DACA, undocumented youth had to have come to America as children, resided in the United States continuously since 2007, and be either a high school student or someone who received a GED or high school diploma.³ Applying for DACA required giving the government extensive personal and familial information, including school records, addresses, fingerprints and a DNA sample.⁴; **AND**

WHEREAS, DACA applicants relied on the promises of President Obama and his administration that the data they provided would never be used against them or their families, and took this risk in order to advance their own futures as well as their families and their communities. In his 2012 speech announcing the creation of the DACA program, President Obama said: "It makes no sense to expel talented young people, who, for all intents and purposes, are Americans...because of the inaction of politicians...And as long as I'm President, I will not give up on this issue...because we are a better nation than one that expels innocent young kids"⁵; **AND**

¹ <https://csg.umich.edu/2016/12/08/in-support-of-daca/>

² <http://unitedwedream.org/about/projects/deferred-action/>

³ <https://www.uscis.gov/humanitarian/consideration-deferred-action-childhood-arrivals-daca>

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<https://www.uscis.gov/humanitarian/consideration-deferred-action-childhood-arrivals-daca#filing%20process>

⁵ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2012/06/15/remarks-president-immigration>

WHEREAS, Because we are currently living in a climate of political uncertainty in which there is no set status of DACA, and therefore, DACA youth are left vulnerable⁶; **AND**

WHEREAS, It is the opinion of the authors that it is the responsibility of President Obama to keep his promise to the DACA recipients by taking action to provide them protection while he still has the power to do so; **AND**

WHEREAS, President Obama can use the same Executive Powers he used to create DACA to protect the more than 750,000 DACA enrollees from deportation. He has a number of ways he could do this. He could grant full amnesty and change their status to permanent resident and give them their green cards now, since they already satisfy the requirements for permanent residency. Or Obama could issue a Presidential Pardon to all the DACA enrollees as a group, for which there is a historical precedent. The president's power to pardon is granted by [Article II, Section 2](#), Clause 1 of the Constitution.⁷ **AND**

WHEREAS, President Schlissel is one of the 510 college and university presidents who have signed onto a letter calling for the continuation of DACA⁸; **AND**

WHEREAS, Sixty-four members of Congress and many other elected officials have signed a letter calling on President Obama to pardon DACA recipients⁹

WHEREAS, In 2006, massive immigrant rights marches and student walkouts shut down schools, factories, universities, docks and transportation. That movement prevented the passing of an anti-immigrant bill HR4437, which would have criminalized undocumented people and anyone associated with them who had not turned them in to ICE. It is the opinion of the authors that the Central Student Government of the University of Michigan

⁶ <http://www.pbs.org/newshour/updates/donald-trumps-10-point-immigration-plan/>

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<http://usgovinfo.about.com/od/the-president-and-cabinet/fl/Presidential-Pardons-Legal-Guidelines.htm>

<https://www.justice.gov/pardon/vietnam-war-era-pardon-instructions>

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<https://www.pomona.edu/news/2016/11/21-college-university-presidents-call-us-uphold-and-continue-daca>

<https://www.michigandaily.com/section/news/campus-uncertain-about-future-undocumented-students-after-trump-victory>

⁹

<https://gutierrez.house.gov/media-center/press-releases/64-democrats-call-president-obama-pardon-dreamers-daca>

<http://observer.com/2016/11/ny-pols-urge-obama-to-block-deportation-of-800k-undocumented-youth-before-he-leaves/>

passing a resolution calling upon President Obama to use his executive power to pardon DACA youth would strengthen our capacity as a campus community to defend undocumented students and residents from mass deportations and attacks.

THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, The Central Student Government calls on President Obama to use his Presidential powers to protect the 750,000 DACA youth from deportation; **AND BE IT FURTHER**

RESOLVED, The authors will send this resolution to the White House (two-day shipping), the Michigan Daily, Detroit News and Free Press, LA Times, New York Times and other relevant news outlets to publicize the University of Michigan Central Student Government’s support for the widespread movement to defend DACA youth.

Authors

Sandhya Medapuram, LSA

Lauren Kay, LSA

Christian Bayley, LSA

Miclan Quorpencetta, LSA

Keysha Wall, LSA

Attest

Tania Haddad, Engineering

Joe Goldberg, LSA

Speaker of the Assembly

Vice Speaker of the Assembly

President’s Approval

David Schafer

Presented to the Assembly for *First Reads* on _____

Presented to the Assembly for *Second Reads* on _____

Yes: _____ No: _____ Abs: _____ Date: _____

Signature Necessary: _____ Signature Received By _____: _____