

**DREAM UPDATE**  
**House Introduces the “American Dream Act” (H.R. 5131)**  
**April 7, 2006**

On Thursday, April 6, Reps. Lincoln Diaz-Balart (R-FL), Howard Berman (D-CA), and Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-CA) introduced the “American Dream Act,” H.R. 5131. This bill takes the place of what we all use to know as the “Student Adjustment Act.”

The other original cosponsors are:

Mario Diaz-Balart (R-FL)

Luis Fortuño (R-PR)

Melissa Hart (R-PA)

Ray LaHood (R-IL)

Jim Leach (R-IA)

Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL)

Luis Gutierrez (D-IL)

Jane Harman (D-CA)

Martin Sabo (D-CA)

Ike Skelton (D-MO)

A Summary of the “American Dream Act”

To increase support in the House, the language of the House bill was changed to look nearly identical to the Senate “DREAM Act,” S. 2075. The previous House bill – the “Student Adjustment Act” was less conservative in some ways. For example, the “Student Adjustment Act” did not include high school graduation or a GED as one of the criteria for immigration relief. Changing the bill to resemble the “DREAM Act” will facilitate advocacy, and we will likely gain support from Congressional members that would not be possible otherwise.

As in the “DREAM Act,” the “American Dream Act” would:

- Repeal the federal provision discouraging states to offer in-state tuition to undocumented students, thereby restoring states’ rights.
- Put certain U.S.-raised immigrant students on a path to citizenship

As is also the case in the “DREAM Act,” students would be considered for legal permanent resident status on a *conditional basis* if they:

- entered the U.S. prior to the age of 16
- have lived in the U.S. for five years by the date that the law is enacted
- have good moral character, a common term in immigration law, and have no criminal record
- have attained a high school diploma or a GED in the U.S.

The conditional status would be lifted at the end of six years if the individual has either: 1) graduated from an institution of higher education, or has completed two years of college in good standing, or 2) has served in the U.S. military for two or more years.

Finally, also as is in the case of the “DREAM Act,” students who are 12 years or older on the date of law’s enactment would be protected from deportation and would be provided work authorization so long as the individual is attending a U.S. K-12 school.

Take Action Now:

To demonstrate your support for the “American Dream Act,” please do the following:

1. Call the following members and thank them for introducing and supporting the “American Dream Act”:

Rep. Howard Berman (D-CA)	(202) 225-4695
Rep. Lincoln Diaz-Balart (R-FL)	(202) 225-4211
Rep. Mario Diaz-Balart (R-FL)	(202) 225-2778
Rep. Luis Fortuño (R-PR)	(202) 225-2615
Rep. Luis Gutierrez (D-IL)	(202) 225-8203
Rep. Jane Harman (D-CA)	(202) 225-8220
Rep. Melissa Hart (R-PA)	(202) 225-2565
Rep. Ray LaHood (R-IL)	(202) 225-6201
Rep. Jim Leach (R-IA)	(202) 225-6576
Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL)	(202) 225-3931
Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-CA)	(202) 225-1766
Rep. Martin Sabo (D-CA)	(202) 225-4755
Rep. Ike Skelton (D-MO)	(202) 225-2876

2. Call your Representative and ask them to cosponsor the “American Dream Act.” The U.S. Capitol Switchboard number is (202) 224-3121
3. It is especially important that we get our previous Republican supporters back on the bill. So, if your member is one of the following, please call them as soon as possible and urge them to cosponsor the “American Dream Act”:

Rep. Henry Bonilla (R-TX)	(202) 225-4511
Rep. Chris Cannon (R-UT)	(202) 225 7751
Rep. Michael Castle (R-DE)	(202) 225 4165
Rep. David Dreier (R-CA)	(202) 225-2305
Rep. James Gibbons (R-NV)	(202) 225 6155
Rep. Peter King (R-NY)	(202) 225-7896
Rep. Tom Latham (R-IA)	(202) 225-5476
Rep. Devin Nunes (R-CA)	(202) 225-2523
Rep. Tom Osborne (R-NE)	(202) 225-6435
Rep. Rick Renzi (R-AZ)	(202) 225-2315
Rep. Paul Ryan (R-WI)	(202) 225-3031
Rep. Christopher Shays (R-CT)	(202) 225-5541
Rep. John Shimkus (R-IL)	(202) 225-5271
Rep. Robert Simmons (R-CT)	(202) 225-2076
Rep. Christopher Smith (R-NJ)	(202) 225-3765
Rep. Todd Tiahrt (R-KS)	(202) 225-6216
Rep. James Walsh (R-NY)	(202) 225-3701
Rep. Jerry Weller (R-IL)	(202) 225-3635
Rep. Heather Wilson (R-NM)	(202) 225-6316