Tillis to Introduce Legislation Addressing Legal Status of Undocumented Children

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WASHINGTON, D.C. – Today, Senator Thom Tillis (R-NC) issued the following statement on the administration’s expected announcement to phase out the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, and on his intention to introduce legislation addressing the legal status of undocumented children:

“Immigration policy must be set through legislation, not executive orders. That was the fundamental flaw underpinning DACA and the reason it’s highly unlikely to survive a legal challenge. President Trump is wisely giving Congress a period of time to fulfill its responsibility to legislate and take long-term action to address the uncertainty facing undocumented children, who were brought to America through no fault of their own.

“In the next week, I’ll be introducing legislation that will provide a fair and rigorous path for undocumented children to earn legal status by requiring them to be employed, pursue higher education, or serve in our Armed Forces. I know this kind of commonsense legislative fix can and should unite members of Congress, and I’ll be working closely with my colleagues on the path forward. It’s up to my Democratic colleagues to decide whether they want a permanent solution or to make this a political wedge issue. I hope they’ll choose bipartisanship.”