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AILA Urges YES VOTE on the American Dream and Promise Act (H.R. 6)

June 4, 2019

The American Immigration Lawyers Association, the national bar association of over 15,000 immigration lawyers and law professors, calls upon members of the House of Representatives to vote YES on H.R. 6, the American Dream and Promise Act, a vital piece of legislation that would offer Dreamers and TPS/DED recipients urgently needed protection from deportation and contribute to the continued economic and social prosperity of the country.

The time has come for Congress to protect these long-standing members of our communities and secure their future as Americans. Currently Dreamers and TPS/DED recipients are at grave risk of being detained and deported, and as a result, they experience substantial challenges and hardship in their everyday lives. Not only does the American public overwhelmingly support protecting Dreamers, but deporting Dreamers and TPS/DED recipients would also harm the economy to the order of hundreds of billions of dollars in lost revenue, including to Social Security and Medicare, as well as major losses in economic growth and jobs. To vote yes on H.R. 6 is to support the advancement of our national interest.

AILA urges House members to reject amendments to H.R. 6 that would further restrict eligibility for relief. As written, H.R. 6 is carefully drafted to protect a highly compelling population of immigrants while at the same time requiring rigorous screening for public safety. Voting to allow the inclusion of more restrictions will not improve the bill but will ultimately undermine and block its passage.

For more than two decades, Congress has been unable to pass critically needed reforms to the nation's immigration system. Now is the time to show Americans that Congress can pass legislation that will secure the status of Dreamers and TPS/DED recipients. AILA stands ready to work with all members of Congress to work in a bipartisan fashion to pass immigration reforms that meet the needs of American businesses, families and the nation.

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