

# DACA



**Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals**

What is it and what are we going to do.



# Presenters

## **Zeke Hernandez, Trustee, Rancho Santiago Community College District**

Zeke has been involved in Democrat political activities since 1970.

Zeke serves as President of Santa Ana LULAC #147.

He is an honorably discharged U.S. Army veteran who served in our nation during the Viet Nam War.

He is a co-founding member of the American Legion Irvine Post #848, and member of the American GI Forum in Orange County.

Zeke has six grandchildren, and four great grandchildren.



# Presenters

## **Phil Yarbrough, Trustee, Rancho Santiago Community College District**

Phil has been involved in political activity since 1974.

He recently served in the Donald Trump for President Campaign as Filed Operations Director in Orange County, California.

Phil previously taught economics at both of the district's colleges, Santa Ana College and Santiago Canyon College.

In addition, Mr. Yarbrough is a contributing writer for the Orange County Register where he writes on family, social and policy issues.

He and his wife Susan have two sons, Elliot and Grant.

## History of DACA: The Dream Act - 2001

- The **DREAM Act** (**D**evelopment, **R**elief, and **E**ducation for **A**lien **M**inors Act) is a bill that was first introduced in the Senate on August 1, 2001, by United States Senators Dick Durbin (D- Illinois) and Orrin Hatch (R- Utah).
- Beneficiaries of the DREAM Act must meet the following requirements:
- They were younger than 18 years old on the date of their initial entry to the United States.
- Have proof of having arrived in the United States before age 16.
- Have proof of residence in the United States for at least five consecutive years since their date of arrival
- If male, have registered with the Selective Service.
- Be between the ages of 12 and 35 at the time of bill enactment
- Have graduated from an American high school, obtained a GED, or been admitted to an institution of higher education
- Be of good moral character.
- **2001 Dream Act died committee.**



# Dream Act - 2003

- On July 31, 2003 Orrin Hatch again introduced the DREAM Act.
- **It died in committee in 2004.**



# Dream Act - 2005

- November 18, 2005 Senator Dick Durbin (D-IL) introduced the DREAM Act.
- It was read twice in the Judiciary Committee, **where it died.**



# Dream Act - 2007

On October 18, 2007, Democrat Dick Durbin of Illinois, along with Republican co-sponsors Charles Hagel of Nebraska and Richard Lugar of Indiana, introduced the DREAM Act.

Oct. 18 2007

The diagram consists of two blue arrow-shaped boxes pointing towards each other, connected by a horizontal line. The left box is labeled 'Oct. 18 2007' and has a dashed vertical line with a small blue square at the top pointing to the text above. The right box is labeled 'Oct. 24 2007' and has a dashed vertical line with a small blue square at the bottom pointing to the text below.

Oct. 24 2007

To bring the DREAM Act up for debate, a vote was scheduled on October 24, 2007 that would require a filibuster-proof count of 60 yes votes, but that failed. The bill died.

# Dream Act - 2009

- Dick Durbin Introduced it on March 26, 2009. It was read twice before it was referred to the Judiciary Committee.
- **It died** in the Judiciary Committee.



## Dream Act - 2010

- On November 16, 2010, President Barack Obama and top Democrats pledged to introduce the Dream Act into the House by November 29. The House of Representatives passed the DREAM Act on December 8, 2010, but the bill failed to reach the 60-vote threshold necessary to end debate on the Senate floor.
- On May 11, 2011, then Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid reintroduced the DREAM Act in the Senate. **It died in committee.**

# DACA

- On June 15, 2012, President Barack Obama announced that his administration would stop deporting illegal immigrants who match certain criteria included in the proposed DREAM Act.
- On August 15, 2012, the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) began accepting applications under the Obama administration's new Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program.





# DACA - What is DACA?

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- The **Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)** allowed some individuals who entered the country illegally as minors to receive a renewable two-year period of deferred action from deportation and to be eligible for a work permit.
- As of 2017, approximately 800,000 individuals—referred to as Dreamers after the DREAM Act bill—were enrolled in the program created by DACA.
- The DACA policy was rescinded by the Trump administration on September 5, 2017, but full implementation of the rescission was delayed six months to give Congress time to decide how to deal with the population that was previously eligible under the policy.

# Is DACA a Law?

- DACA is an executive order signed by President Obama, it is not law.
- A law is legislation and is enacted by Congress and signed by the President.





# Where we are today

- There are several pending bills in Congress, spearheaded by both Republicans and Democrats, that could gain more steam now that Trump has made the decision to wind down the program in six months.
- On Sept. 5, 2017, White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders hinted in her briefing on Tuesday that Trump wanted "comprehensive reform" and dodged on whether Trump would sign a bill addressed just for DACA.
- The senators held a press conference after the Trump administration's announcement, saying they are pushing for action by the end of September on their latest iteration of the Dream Act.

# Where We Are Today – Dream Act 2017



- **Dream Act 2017**, sponsored by Sens. Dick Durbin, D-Ill., and Lindsey Graham R-S.C.



- The White House has already signaled it won't support this bill: When Graham and Durbin proposed it in July, Trump's legislative affairs director, Marc Short, said, "I think that the administration has opposed the Dream Act and likely will be consistent on that."

# Where We Are Today - RACA

- **Recognizing America's Children Act**, sponsored by Rep. Carlos Curbelo, R-Fla.
- The Miami congressman's plan, which he introduced in March, similarly takes much of what was in DACA and codifies it, while also providing a pathway toward legal status and, eventually, citizenship.
- three pathways toward legalization: higher education, service in the armed forces or work authorization.



# Where We Are Today – BRIDGE Act

- **The BRIDGE Act** — which stands for Bar Removal of Individuals Who Dream and Grow our Economy — was proposed back in January and essentially would codify the current DACA program into law and extend it for three years, allowing Congress more time to come up with a comprehensive, long-term solution for overhauling the nation's immigration laws. Unlike the other bills in Congress, it does not include a path to citizenship.

BAR REMOVAL OF INDIVIDUALS WHO DREAM AND GROW OUR ECONOMY

#SAVEDACA





# Congressional Leaders on DACA – Paul Ryan

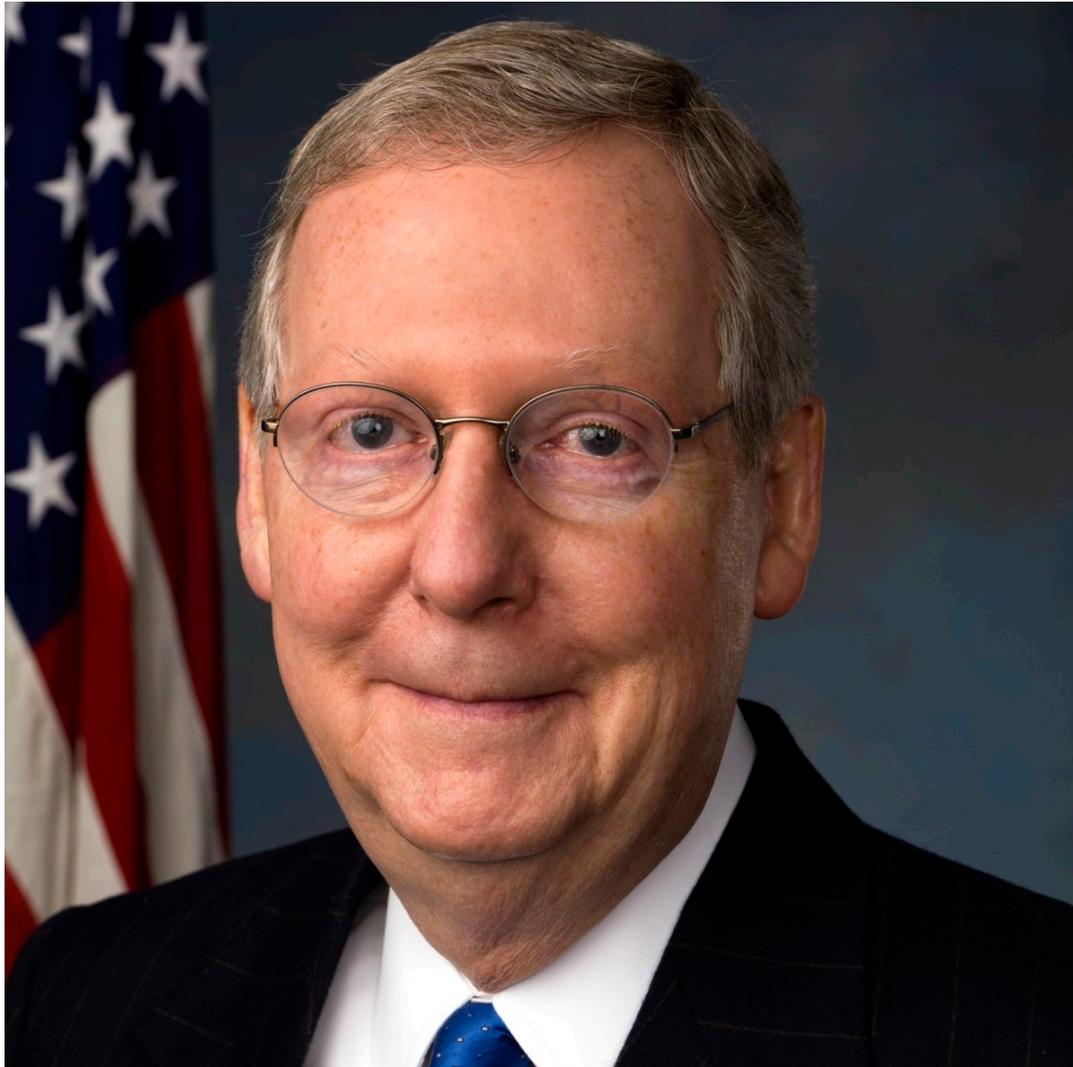
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- House Speaker Paul Ryan has pulled together an informal group of Republican lawmakers from various factions of the party to discuss how best to handle immigration and what legislation could make it through the GOP's divided caucus.
- **Ryan's working group** will include members of leadership as well as lawmakers on the Judiciary Committee, Homeland Security Committee and Appropriations Committee.

# Congressional Leaders on DACA – Freedom Caucus

- **Ryan's working group** is not the only GOP panel trying to solve the immigration issue. **The House Freedom Caucus**, a group of roughly three dozen conservatives, is working closely with the Trump administration to draft legislation of their own.





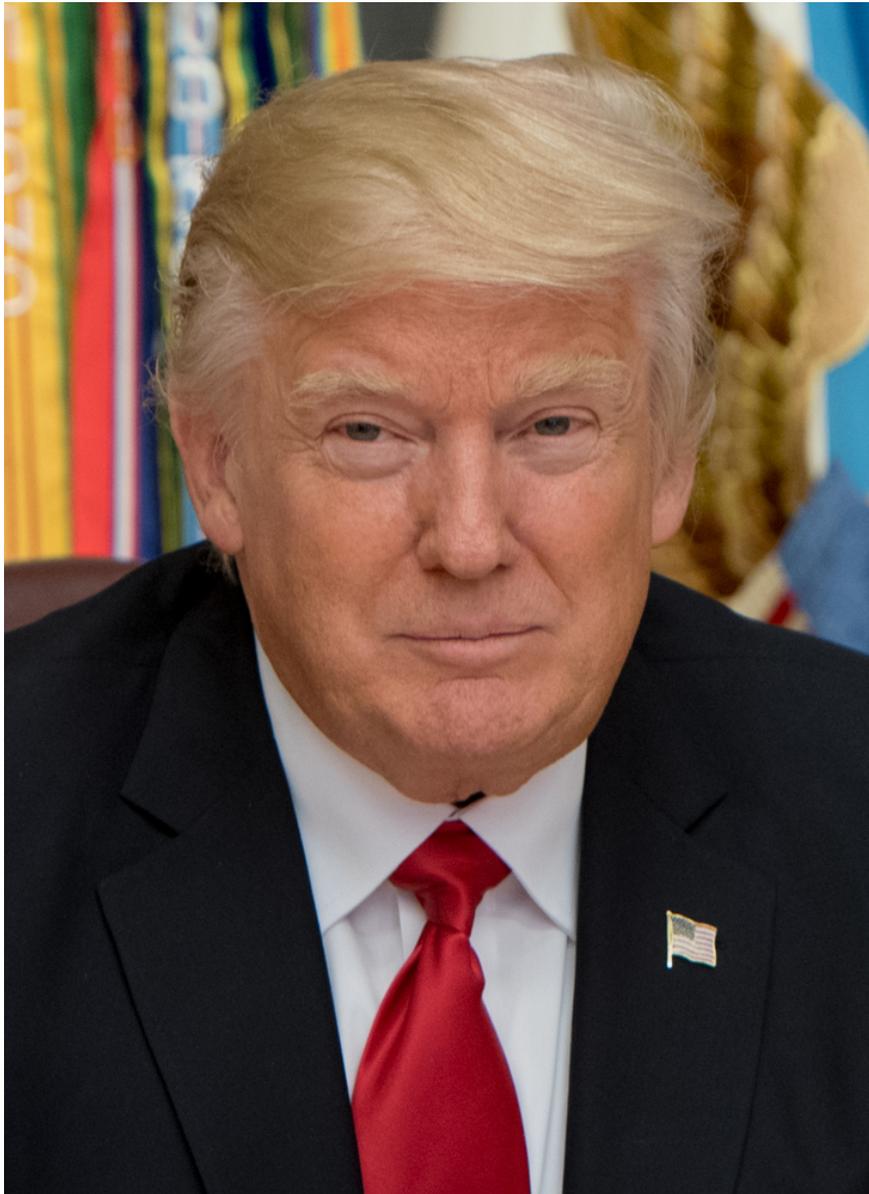
## Congressional Leaders on DACA – Mitch McConnell

- Unlike House Speaker [Paul Ryan](#) (R-Wis.), McConnell did not call for Congress to take up legislative action on DACA,
- McConnell did not promise to include protections for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals recipients in any potential immigration reform legislation



# The White House Dinner on DACA

- Ahead of her dinner with Trump, Pelosi and other top House Democrats huddled with House Speaker Paul Ryan and House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy on a potential legislative fix for DACA.
- It was also striking who did not make the invite list; House Speaker Paul Ryan(R-WI) and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) were not in attendance.



## Trump on DACA

- Trump told reporters that House Speaker Paul Ryan and McConnell support a tentative bipartisan plan to protect illegal immigrants brought to the U.S. as children, and include border security measures that stop short of building a border wall.
- "Mitch is on board. Paul Ryan is on board. We all feel — look, 92 percent of the people agree on DACA, but what we want is we want very, very powerful border security, okay," Trump told reporters outside the White House before departing for Florida.
- "We're going to keep the families together. We have to keep the families together." — Donald Trump, Aug. 16, 2015.

# Where We Need to Go

- As a Community College system, our first and foremost concern is for our students.
- “DACA is of great importance to thousands of community college students throughout this country”, A. Noah Brown, ACCT President. “We call on Congress to act quickly to remedy this situation for those individuals profoundly affected by this action.”
- You need to contact your congressional representatives and tell them what you expect would be a reasonable solution.



# Things to Keep in Mind when you speak to your Congressional Representatives



- It's about our students, not about other issues.
- The Dream Act failed because there are interests in seeing that it died. Those interests will still be there.
- Our President wants a solution and wants to sign something into law, not an executive order.
- Republican's hold majorities in both the Senate and the House.
- President Trump wants to keep families together.
- A large majority of American polled want to keep DACA students in America. Congress knows this.
- We have six months to get something to President Trump's desk.
- Talk with Higher Education staff member as an alternative.



Questions and Comments

# Thank you



**Zeke Hernandez, Trustee,  
Rancho Santiago Community College District**



**Phil Yarbrough, Trustee,  
Rancho Santiago Community College District**