

March 4, 2019

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
317 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Chuck Schumer  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
322 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senate Majority Leader McConnell and Senate Minority Leader Schumer:

As labor organizations representing millions of workers in the U.S., we urge you to renew Temporary Protected Status (TPS) designations and bring to the floor, and pass legislation to provide permanent relief and a path to citizenship for Dreamers and individuals with TPS or Deferred Enforced Departure (DED).

As you know, there are large numbers of TPS holders and Dreamers in the United States. Many of these individuals are valued members of our unions and our labor community. They work in construction, restaurants and food service, meatpacking and food processing, childcare, grocery stores, schools, and many other industries in which we represent workers. They are homeowners, and parents to hundreds of thousands of U.S. citizen children.

Deportation of TPS holders and Dreamers, who are experienced and have an expertise in their jobs, would be devastating to the U.S. economy, as well as harmful to our organizations. While courts have recently acted to protect TPS holders and Dreamers, those protections are only temporary. We must pass legislation to provide permanent protections to these valued workers.

When TPS holders and Dreamers are at risk, all workers are more vulnerable to employer abuses. However, when workers, including TPS holders and Dreamers, have legal status and rights, all workplaces benefit from higher wages, safer workplaces, and the right and ability to form and join a union.

Last year, bills to provide permanent relief and a path to citizenship for TPS holders and Dreamers had the support of a majority of the Members of Congress. On behalf of the undersigned unions, we call on the Senate to move swiftly to enact such legislation to save these valued members of our labor organizations and the general community.

Please contact Danielle LeClair at [dleclair@liuna.org](mailto:dleclair@liuna.org) with any questions.

Sincerely,

AFL-CIO  
American Federation of Musicians  
American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees  
American Federation of Teachers

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Asia Pacific American Labor Alliance  
A. Philip Randolph Institute  
Bakery, Confectionery, Tobacco Workers and Grain Millers' International Union  
Coalition of Black Trade Unionists  
Communication Workers of America  
Department for Professional Employees, AFL-CIO  
Guild of Italian American Actors  
International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees  
International Association of Machinists  
International Association of Sheet Metal, Air, Rail and Transportation Workers  
International Brotherhood of Teamsters  
International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers  
International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Crafts  
International Union of Operating Engineers  
International Union of Painters and Allied Trades  
Ironworkers International Union  
Labor Council for Latin American Advancement  
Laborers International Union of North America  
National Education Association  
Office and Professional Employees International Union  
Screen Actors Guild – American Federation of Television and Radio Artists  
Service Employees International Union  
Stage Directors and Choreographers Society  
UNITE HERE  
United Autoworkers  
United Food and Commercial Workers  
United Mine Workers of America  
United Steelworkers  
Writers Guild of America, East

cc: All Members, U.S. Senate