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Albuquerque Pro-Immigrant Groups Continue Demanding Congress for Clean Dream Act by December

A Bipartisan Solution is Necessary by the End of the Year With No Dangerous Enforcement or Militarization Add-Ons to Provide Protection From Deportation for Young Immigrants and Families Nationwide

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. - The following are statements from leaders of the Listo Nuevo México network after [it was reported yesterday Trump rejected attaching a DACA fix to the year end spending bill during a meeting with Republican Senators:](#)

Johana Saenz, immigrant mother & Chapter Lead for NM Dream Team, said,

“As a single mother of two children, I feel outraged that Trump is refusing to commit to the Dream Act and is ignoring the threat millions of immigrant youth and families are facing as under the current administration.

“As someone who qualifies for the Dream Act 2017, I need the administration to hear from me why he must act fast and support the legislation that will provide a permanent solution not only to over 800,000 DACA recipients –who are currently in limbo since the Trump administration rescinded the program– but for the millions more like me who will get an opportunity at making a better life for ourselves and our families without fear of being deported.

“Congress must pass a Clean Dream Act before December, for the more they delay, more lives are being put at risk of deportation –including my own and my children’s.”

Marian J. Mendez-Cera, DACA beneficiary and community organizer at El CENTRO de Igualdad y Derechos, said,

“22,000 DACAmented youth are already vulnerable to Trump’s deportation machine because after Trump ended DACA as part of his anti-immigrant agenda, Republicans in Congress have failed to stand up to his White Supremacist agenda. We need a clean

Dream Act free of enforcement trade-offs that will protect DACA beneficiaries along with our families. We will resist those politicians who want to use us as bargaining chips for increased enforcement. Locally, we will continue to build upon New Mexico's proud legacy of resistance and of passing local policies which are conducive to keeping our families together. Let's be clear: New Mexico is prepared to stand with immigrant communities in this Trump era."

Luis Leyva, communications fellow for the New Mexico Immigrant Law Center, said,

"By not attaching a DACA fix to the end of the year spending deal, Republicans are conveying that providing security to undocumented youth is not a priority to them. DACA-mented youth will continue being at risk while uncertainty looms in their everyday life, which is unacceptable. Congress needs to pass a Dream Act by the end of the year that allows immigrant youth to continue with their everyday life without having to worry about their future. NMILC firmly believes a Clean Dream Act is necessary by the end of the year to finally give peace of mind to these hundreds of thousands of young immigrants."

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Listo NM, is an Albuquerque-based collaborative of nonprofit organizations– including [El CENTRO de Igualdad y Derechos](#), [NM Dream Team \(NMDT\)](#), [Encuentro](#), and the [New Mexico Immigrant Law Center \(NMILC\)](#)– focused on supporting immigrant integration statewide and related support programs, services and advocacy, ensuring low-income immigrants have access to social and legal services for Immigration and Administrative Relief, to foster leadership development and to promote economic and civic engagement in immigrant communities.