The Committee met, pursuant to notice, at 9:30 a.m., in Room SR-325, Russell Senate Office Building, Hon. Chuck Grassley, Chairman of the Committee, presiding.


Chairman Grassley. Before we actually start the hearing, I am going to give a point of personal privilege to former Chairman and my friend, Senator Leahy, to speak for a few seconds that he asked to do, and I think it is very appropriate that you do what you said you were going to do.
rather than--and I have not reached--gone that far, to give
you an opinion today.

Senator Graham. Immigration. You have said that the
executive order of President Obama you believe is
unconstitutional, the DACA law. Do you still have that
position?

Senator Sessions. I did, for a number of reasons.

Senator Graham. But I am not -- I mean, I agree with
you.

Senator Sessions. Right.

Senator Graham. Now we have got 800,000 people have
come out of the shadows, that have been signed up. Will you
advise the next president, President Trump, to repeal that
executive order?

Senator Sessions. That will be a decision that needs
to be studied and that he would need to agree to. But it is
an executive order -- really, a memorandum of the Department

It would certainly be constitutional, I believe, to end
that order, and our Department of Justice, I think, could
have no objection to a decision to abandon that order.
Because it is very questionable, in my opinion,
Senator Graham. Once we repeal it -- and I agree that I believe it is an overreach -- what do we do with the 800,000 kids who have come out of the shadows?

Senator Sessions. Senator Graham, fundamentally we need to fix this immigration system. Colleagues, it is not been working right. We have entered more and more millions of people illegally into the country. Each one of them produces some sort of humanitarian concern, but it is particularly true for children.

So we have been placed in a bad situation. I really would urge us all to work together. I would try to be supportive to end the illegality and put us in a position where we can wrestle with how to handle these difficult, compassionate decisions.

Senator Graham. Right. And the best way to do it is for Congress and the administration to work together and pass a law, not an executive order.

Senator Sessions. Exactly.

Senator Graham. OK. When it comes to the law of war, do you believe that people who join al-Qaeda or affiliated groups are subject to being captured or killed under the law of war?

Senator Sessions. I do, Senator. I just do not see how we could see it otherwise. And it is the responsibility
So in fairness, tell me why you still oppose
that.

Senator Sessions. Well, first, I will tell you
with absolute certainty that if -- it is a decision of this
body. It is not the attorney general’s decision about when
and where a mandatory minimum is imposed and whether it can
be retroactively altered.

So I will follow any law that you pass, number
one. Number two, I understood the sincere belief you had on
that issue, and it was a difficult call, and that is why we
really never worked it out.

So I understand what you are saying, but I did
believe that you are upsetting finality in the justice
system, that you are suggesting that these kind of factors
were not considered when the plea bargaining went down. So
it is an honorable debate to have, and I respect your
position on it.

Senator Durbin. Senator, you have been outspoken
on another issue, and I would like to address it, if I
could. I have invited here today Sergeant Oscar Vazquez, if
he would be kind enough to stand up and be recognized.
Sergeant, thank you for being here.

I will tell you his incredible story in a short
form. Brought to the United States as a child, in high
school he and three other DREAMers started a Robotics Club
and won a college-level robotics competition. They made a
movie out of this story. He graduated from Arizona State
University with an engineering degree. The Obama
administration granted him a waiver and allowed him to
become a citizen and enlist in the United States Army, where
he served in combat in Afghanistan.

Senator Sessions, since joining the Senate in
1997, you have voted against every immigration bill that
included a path to citizenship for the undocumented. You
described the DREAM Act, which I introduced 15 years ago to
spare children who are undocumented through no fault of
their own, as "a reckless proposal for mass amnesty." You
opposed the bipartisan comprehensive immigration reform bill
which passed the Senate 4 years ago. You have objected to
immigrants' volunteering to serve in our armed forces,
saying, "In terms of who is going most likely to be a spy:
somebody from Cullman, Alabama, or somebody from Kenya?"

When I asked what you would do to address the
almost 800,000 DREAMers, like Oscar Vazquez, who would be
subject to deportation if President Obama's Executive order
was repealed, you said, "I believe in following the law.
There is too much focus on people who are here illegally and
not enough on the law."

Senator Sessions, there is not a spot of evidence
in your public career to suggest that as Attorney General
you would use the authority of that office to resolve the
challenges of our broken immigration system in a fair and
humane manner. Tell me I am wrong.

Senator Sessions. Well, you are wrong, Senator
Durbin. I am going to follow the laws passed by Congress.
As a matter of policy, we disagreed on some of those issues.
I do believe that if you continually go through a cycle of
amnesty that you undermine the respect for the law and
encourage more illegal immigration into America. I believe
the American people spoke clearly in this election. I
believe they agreed with my basic view. And I think it is a
good view, a decent view, a solid legal view for the United
States of America that we create a lawful system of
immigration that allows people to apply to this country, and
if they are accepted, they get in; if they are not accepted,
they do not get in. And I believe that is right and just,
and the American people are right to ask for it. We have
not delivered that for them.

Senator Durbin. Senator Graham asked this
question, and I listened to your answer when he asked you
what would happen to those 800,000 currently protected by
President Obama's Executive order known as DACA, who cannot
be deported for 2 years--it is renewable--and can work for 2
years, and you said, "Let Congress pass a comprehensive
immigration reform bill."
You opposed the only bipartisan effort that we have had on the Senate floor in modern memory. And what is going to happen to those 800,000 if you revoke that order and they are subject to deportation tomorrow? What is going to happen to them? What is the humane legal answer to that?

Senator Sessions. Well, the first thing I would say is that my response to Senator Graham dealt with whose responsibility this is. I had a responsibility as a member of this body to express my view and vote as I believed was correct on dealing with issues of immigration. That is not the Attorney General's role. The Attorney General's role is to enforce the law. And as you know, Senator Durbin, we are not able financially or any other way to seek out and remove everybody that is in the country illegally.

President Trump has indicated that criminal aliens, like President Obama indicated, certainly are the top group of people, and so I would think that the best thing for us to do--and I would urge colleagues that we understand this. Let us fix this system. And then we can work together after this lawlessness has been ended, and then we can ask the American people and enter into a dialogue about how to compassionately treat people who have been here a long time.

Senator Durbin. That does not answer the question about the 800,000 who would be left in the lurch, whose
lives would be ruined while you are waiting on Congress for
a bill that you opposed.

Senator Sessions. Well, I thought it did answer
it pretty closely, what you asked, and I understand your
concerns.

Chairman Grassley. Senator Cornyn.

Senator Cornyn. Senator Sessions, congratulations
to you and your family on this once-in-a-lifetime honor to
serve as the head of the Department of Justice.

You know, sitting here listening to the questions
and some of the comments that have been made, both by the
protesters and others, it strikes me that many people have
been surprised to learn more about your record, your
outstanding record as a prosecutor, as somebody who treated
that responsibility to uphold and enforce the law and the
Constitution without fear or favor. I think some people
here listening today have been somewhat surprised by your
record in complete context.

Those of us who have served with you in this
Senate, some as many as 20 years, like Senator Shelby and
Senator Collins, testified to your character. But I like to
think that those of us who served with you most closely in
the Senate, particularly here on the Judiciary Committee,
know more about you than just your record and your
character. We know your heart. We know what kind of person
American jurisprudence. And he says that Congress has just fallen down on its job.

Now, of course, there are two ways. One of them is that it writes laws that are too broad. And I would urge all of you to be sure that when we pass a law or you pass a law, if I am confirmed, that that law is clear and sets limits. When it does not set limits, then you can have the secretary of this agency or that agency claiming they have certain authorities and we end up with a very muddled litigation maybe resulting from it.

So reestablishing the proper separation of powers and fidelity to law and to limits is an important issue. And I think, hopefully, I think that is what you are suggesting.

Senator Sasse. Could you tell me under what circumstances, if any, you think the Department of Justice can fail to enforce a law?

Senator Sessions. Well, it can fail to enforce it by setting prosecutorial policies with regard to declining to prosecute whole chunks of cases and, in fact, eliminate a statute. If a new tax is passed and the Department of Justice says it cannot be collected, then the law is not followed.

You also have the circumstances which can redefine the statute or alter. If we are talking about improper actions,
it could expand the meaning of the words of the statute far beyond what Congress ever intended. And that is abuse too.

Senator Sasse. And not to interrupt you too soon, the improper, but also, what is proper? Because this administration has made the case regularly that they need to exercise prosecutorial discretion because of limited resources. And obviously, there are not infinite resources in the world, so what are some proper instances, in your view, when an administration might not enforce a law?

Senator Sessions. Well, critics of the immigration enforcement, the DAPA and the DACA laws, said that the prosecutorial discretion argument went too far. It basically just eliminated the laws from the books.

Secondly with regard to that, the president’s -- well, the order came from Homeland Security, not from the Department of Justice, but Homeland Security’s order not only said we are not going to enforce the law with regard to certain large classifications of people, but those people who had not been given legal status under the laws of the United States were given photo I.D.s, work authorization and Social Security numbers and the right to participate in these government programs, that would appear to be contrary to existing law. So that would, to me, suggest an overreach.
Senator Blumenthal. Did you agree with the Department of Investigation finding that it had an adverse and disparate impact on people on the basis of race?

Senator Sessions. Oh, I have never expressed an opinion upon it and I never studied that issue in depth. But apparently somebody must have agreed, because it was changed.

Senator Blumenthal. Did you agree with that conclusion?

Senator Sessions. Well, yes; I was happy that that solution was reached, yes. Very much. You do not need to have -- you know, we should remember those things as we move forward, setting policy, what kind of ramifications could it have. I do not think they had voting in their mind at all, but it did impact voting to some degree, for sure.

Senator Blumenthal. But you took no action at the time? You expressed no conclusion at the time, despite what was found to be a disparate and adverse impact on voting rights of 250,000 members of the citizens of your state?

Senator Sessions. Well, they did not ask my opinion before they did it, and it was purely a state matter. And I did not actively intervene, you are correct.

Senator Blumenthal. I want to ask you about the DACA young people, the DREAMers, who have submitted information to the Federal government about their whereabouts, their identities, a lot of personal details. And I know that
your response, I think to a question about it, was that Congress must act.

But would not it violate fundamental fairness, whether due process or some standard of constitutional due process, to use that information, in fact, against them. Obviously, we are not talking about a criminal proceeding, so there is no double jeopardy.

But I guess I am asking for your commitment, as a prospective attorney general, your respect for the Constitution, to make a commitment that those young people will not be deported, that you will continue that policy that has been initiated.

Senator Sessions. Certainly you are correct that those -- that cohort of individuals should not be targeted and given a priority, anything like the priorities that should be given to criminals and people who have had other difficulties in the United States, those who have been ordered deported and had final orders of deportation.

So I understand what you are saying there. I think, until I have had a chance to think it through and examine the law and so forth, I would not opine on it myself.

Number two, importantly, this is a policy of Homeland Security. They have got to wrestle with the priorities of their agents, what they should spend their time with and try to do that in the most effective way.
So General Kelly will have to think that through.
I am -- simply would be, if some matter were litigated, we
would try to be supportive of the litigating position, if
possible.
So it is really a Homeland Security question.

Senator Blumenthal. I understand that Homeland
Security may be involved, but ultimately, orders to deport are
the responsibility of the Department of Justice to enforce.
You are the nominee to be the nation’s chief law
enforcement officer. And more importantly, in some sense you
are a source of the nation’s conscience, legal conscience.
And so I am asking you, as a prospective United
States attorney, whether your conscience would be violated by
using information submitted in good faith, by countless young
people who have been in this country since infancy, many of
them, and who trusted the government of the United States of
America to give them the benefit of that policy articulated by
the president of the United States.
You may have disagreed with that policy, but the
submission of that information in good faith on the basis of
representations by the United States of America, it seems to
me, involve a prospective commitment on your part in
representing the United States of America.

Senator Sessions. Well, you make a good point,
and that is a valid concern. I know of no policy that would

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suggest that something like that would be done, and I would not push for it. But ultimately the decision would be made by the Homeland Security Department. They decide their priorities for enforcement.

And then there is a question of whether or not -- I just would not want to be in a position to say they would never be used, but -- and I cannot make that commitment today. I have not thought it through as to what laws might be implicated.

But if somebody were a terrorist or had other criminal gang connections, could you never use that information? I do not know. I am just not prepared to answer that today. It may not be possible to use it.

Senator Blumenthal. Well, I am -- I recognize, Mr. Chairman, my time is up. But I will pursue this line of questioning again, because I feel I am midway through a number of questions.

Thank you, Senator.

Senator Grassley. Before I call on the senator from Hawaii, I would like to note that Pat Edington, former vice chair of the Alabama Democratic Party, wrote to our Committee in support of this nomination. Mr. [sic] Edington says, quote, "I truly hope our party will not make this vote on party lines, but instead vote on the man," end of quote.

LISA DENNIS COURT REPORTING
410-729-0401
U.S. Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue on Friday said President Trump may be open to creating a way for some undocumented immigrant workers to stay in the U.S. and Perdue is already working on a “blueprint” of policy guidelines to offer the president.

Refusing to call it a pathway to citizenship, Perdue says he would like to find a solution that would allow workers in the ag industry to remain in the U.S. legally. That’s despite Trump’s campaign promises to step up deportations of undocumented immigrants.

Trump met with farmers this week and heard about the challenges they face keeping laborers for dairies or field work, Perdue says.

“He understands that there are long-term immigrants, sometimes undocumented immigrant laborers, out here on the farms, many of them that are doing a great job, contributing to the economy of the United States,” Perdue says. “That is not his focus nor will that be my focus.”

Perdue says he’s hired a labor lawyer to help design the program that can help keep undocumented workers here, but remove criminals, which is what Trump wants. Perdue says he’s hired an attorney away from the American Farm Bureau.

“I’m hoping she can provide the president and his administration a blueprint and a program of how we can separate and divide and understand who are the immigrants that are contributing to American society and contributing (to) putting ... that food on the table and the fiber that we need for clothes,” Perdue says.

The move is a turnaround for both Perdue and Trump, who said during the presidential campaign that he would deport almost all undocumented immigrants.

Many of the most powerful agriculture industry groups have pushed Washington to complete comprehensive reform to the immigration system that would allow for more legal foreign farmworkers. More than 70 percent of farm workers are foreign-born and half of those are in the U.S. illegally, according to the USDA.

More recently, Trump told a private meeting with TV anchors that he would consider immigration reform that would provide a legal pathway for people in the U.S. illegally. He has not made similar remarks publically since taking office.

Perdue said during his Senate confirmation hearings that he supported making it easier for dairy farmers to employ immigrants. Yet in 2006 as governor of Georgia, he instituted a major crackdown on illegal immigration, which resulted in a crisis for farmers who couldn’t find labor.

Daniel M. Kowalski, an attorney and editor of Bender’s Immigration Bulletin, said he’s surprised and pleased with the news.

“This new benefit for ag workers could be an entering wedge of reform, opening up relief for DACA ("Dreamer") kids, their parents, refugees, and more,” Kowalski says. “It will take sustained pressure from families and small businesses to convince Trump and Congress that immigrants are a benefit, not a burden.”
If Perdue’s plan moves forward, Congress may have to pass a bill creating a new visa program or provide tweaks to the existing H-2A and H-2B visas, Kowalski says. Or perhaps the Trump Administration would direct the Department of Homeland Security to order Immigration and Customs Enforcement to exercise prosecutorial discretion to resist deporting all of the people they arrest, he says.

Perdue wouldn’t offer the specifics of his plan and said it’s in its early stages.

“I’m trying to describe the heart of the president and my heart regarding how we treat people, some people here who are undocumented who have been working in the United States for a number of years,” Perdue says. “Those people are different than the criminal people, illegal criminals preying on the population of the United States of America.”

Sir--You may want to give him a call.

Ag Secretary Says Trump Open to Allowing Immigrant Farm Workers To Stay In U.S.

By EDITOR • APR 28, 2017

U.S. Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue on Friday said President Trump may be open to creating a way for some undocumented immigrant workers to stay in the U.S. and Perdue is already working on a “blueprint” of policy guidelines to offer the president.

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@RepGutierrez said Kelly indicated that the future of DACA is in the hands of Attorney General Sessions.  
https://twitter.com/JoshDorner/status/885217329235337216
From Anela.

**Immigration Articles**


https://townhall.com/tipsheet/christinerouselle/2017/08/14/san-francisco-suing-doj-n2368441


**Non-immigration Articles**


http://dailycaller.com/2017/08/14/sessions-aggressive-response-to-charlottesville-should-come-as-no-surprise/


http://www.politico.com/story/2017/08/14/sessions-charlottesville-violence-investigation-241632?lo=ap_d1

https://www.wsj.com/articles/police-say-separating-sides-is-key-tactic-to-avoid-protest-violence-1502789404

**Tweets**

**CAP Immigration** @CAPImmigration • 58m58 minutes ago

"Now is the moment to stand up for DACA"

**Washington Examiner** Verified account @dcexaminer • 59m59 minutes ago

Trump allies "surprised" by show of racial groups after Charlottesville
It's time to end DACA.

The Taliban warns Trump: Staying in Afghanistan will only result in "further destruction of American military" [link]

Today on 5th anniversary of #DACA & every day, we #DefendDACA & stand with all immigrants! #HereToStay

Here's the original memo creating DACA: [link] ... Not a law, not even an executive order. Just a memo. Cancel it.

Justice Department seeks information of people who visited anti-Trump website [link]

Thank God for the @FBI. They foiled a right-wing domestic terror plot in OK City.

There's a widespread perception that illegal immigrants are a significant source of crime. That's simply not true. [link]

DACA helps undocumented students access higher education. A sign that #DACAworks

Irishman arrested in Montana entering the U.S. illegally [link] via @IrishCentral

31% of undocumented immigrants own their own home. Let that sink in. Here's what happens when they are deported.

Dreamers face immigration showdown over amnesty with Trump, courts...

Fact Check: Trump's claim that foreigners are responsible for "vast majority" of terrorism convictions since 9/11

Attorney General Jeff Sessions Calls #Charlottesville Car Crash 'Domestic Terrorism' [link]

Greg Sargent Retweeted Greg Sargent
Trump inflates the threat from immigrants. Meanwhile, Trump downplays the threat from white supremacist groups and Russian sabotage.
From: Cutrona, Danielle (OAG)
Sent: Wednesday, August 16, 2017 10:38 AM
To: O'Malley, Devin (OPA)
Subject: Re: daca question

Thanks.

On Aug 16, 2017, at 10:34 AM, O'Malley, Devin (OPA) <domalley@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

No further comment.

You good with that?

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)" <siflores@imd.usdoj.gov>
Date: August 16, 2017 at 10:29:33 AM EDT
To: Seung Min Kim <skim@politico.com>, "Prior, Ian (OPA)" <lPrior@imd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: "O'Malley, Devin (OPA)" <domalley@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: RE: daca question

Adding Devin

---
Sarah Isgur Flores
Director of Public Affairs
202.305.5808

From: Seung Min Kim [mailto:skim@politico.com]
Sent: Wednesday, August 16, 2017 10:23 AM
To: Prior, Ian (OPA) <lPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <siflores@imd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: daca question

Hey Ian and Sarah,
What has DOJ said about the June 29 letter from Ken Paxton and other attorneys general about their plans to sue over the 2012 DACA program if the administration doesn’t end the program by Sept. 5? Would DOJ defend DACA in court should we get to that point?

Thanks,
Seung Min
From: Hudson, Andrew (OLP)
Sent: Wednesday, August 16, 2017 1:19 PM
To: Cutrona, Danielle (OAG); Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA); Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA);
Mizelle, Chad (ODAG); Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG); Pickell, Lindsay A. (OLA);
Prior, Ian (OPA)
Cc: Mangum, Anela M. (OLA)
Subject: FW: News Clips, Morning 8/16

From: Mangum, Anela M. (OLA)
Sent: Wednesday, August 16, 2017 11:31 AM
To: Hudson, Andrew (OLP)
Subject: News Clips, Morning 8/16

Immigration Articles


Non-immigration Articles
https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/justice-department-at-odds-with-dea-on-marijuana-research-ms-13/2017/08/15/ffca2cd4-7eb9-11e7-a669-b400c5e7e1cc_story.html


http://dailycaller.com/2017/08/15/feds-continue-crackdown-on-ms-13/


Tweets

Andrew Kolodny @andrewkolodny · 57m57 minutes ago
A ‘National Emergency’ Declaration on Opioid Epidemic Might Actually Work

CNSNews.com Verified account @cnsnews · 56m56 minutes ago
DOJ: 13 MS-13 Gang Members Arrested in Ohio, Indiana - The Justice Department announced Tuesday that 13 members...

WSJ Editorial Page Verified account @WSJopinion 58m58 minutes ago
Evidence suggests that Medicaid may contribute to the opioid epidemic.

Jessica Vaughan @JessicaV_CIS 18h18 hours ago
Jessica Vaughan Retweeted Kausha Luna
TN visas shld be re-worked - a huge essentially permanent guest worker program no one talks about, admits tens of thousands new workers/yr

Bob Herman Verified account @bobherman 2h2 hours ago
The opioid epidemic isn't just affecting working adults. It's also taking the lives of more high schoolers.

CAP Immigration @CAPimmigration 56m56 minutes ago
5 years later, what is next for DACA is unclear.

Paul Bedard Verified account @SecretsBedard Ihl hour ago
Sanctuary slayer Sessions: Sanctuary Chicago, 'trafficker, smuggler, predator's best friend'
http://www.washingtonexaminer.com/article/2631657 via @dcexaminer

Foreign Policy Verified account @ForeignPolicy 47m47 minutes ago
FBI and DHS warned of growing threats from white supremacists months ago.

The Washington Times Verified account @WashTimes 39m39 minutes ago
Sessions to criticize Chicago, praise Miami-Dade in remarks on sanctuary cities

BreitbartTexas @BreitbartTexas 33m33 minutes ago
Mexican Cartel Executions Continue Despite Border State Peacekeeping Efforts

ICE Verified account @ICEgov 39m39 minutes ago
Operation Hardest Hit targets Portsmouth heroin traffickers https://www.ice.gov/news/releases/operation-hardest-hit-targets-portsmouth-heroin-traffickers

Anela M. Mangum
Confidential Assistant
Office of Legislative Affairs
U.S. Department of Justice
Phone: 202-514-4828
Fax: 202-514-4482
Dear Mr. President:

We respectfully request that you use your executive authority to the greatest extent possible to protect the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program.

As you know, DACA provides temporary relief from deportation to immigrant students who arrived in the United States as children if they register with the government, pay a fee, and pass criminal and national-security background checks. These young people are known as Dreamers. They came to the United States as children and are American in every way except for their immigration status. We have already invested in them by educating them in American schools. It makes no sense to squander their talents by deporting them to countries they barely remember.

Approximately 790,000 Dreamers have come forward and received DACA, which has allowed them to contribute more fully to their country as teachers, nurses, engineers, and small business owners. According to the conservative CATO Institute, deporting DACA recipients would cost over $60 billion and would result in a $280 billion reduction in economic growth over the next decade. The nonpartisan Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy estimates that the 1.3 million young people enrolled in or eligible for DACA pay $2 billion each year in state and local taxes.

Following your inauguration, we were heartened when you said the following about the Dreamers: “We’re going to work something out that’s going to make people happy and proud. They got brought here at a very young age, they’ve worked here, they’ve gone to school here. Some were good students. Some have wonderful jobs. And they’re in never-never land because they don’t know what’s going to happen.” The following month, on February 16, you said: “We are going to deal with DACA with heart.” We greatly appreciate that you have been true to your word and have kept the DACA program in place.

However, DACA now faces a grave threat. Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton and nine other states have challenged your authority as President and threatened to sue you if you do not rescind the memorandum that established DACA and announce that your Administration will not renew or issue any new DACA permits. Ironically, these states never sued President Obama over the DACA program. If this threat is successful, it would undermine your ability to set immigration policy for your Administration and put hundreds of thousands of talented young people at risk of imminent deportation.
While we appreciate your commitment to DACA, we are concerned that some members of your Administration have taken a different position. As a United States Senator, Attorney General Jeff Sessions was the Senate’s most vocal opponent of the Dreamers. While he is now a member of your cabinet, the Attorney General has refused to defend your position on DACA. On April 19, the Attorney General said the following about DACA: “We can’t promise people who are here unlawfully that they’re not going to be deported.” In an interview that aired on April 23, you said the following about the Attorney General’s comments: “The Dreamers should rest easy.” However, the Attorney General contradicted you again days later when he was asked if he agreed that Dreamers should rest easy, saying, “Well, we’ll see. I believe that everyone that enters the country unlawfully is subject to being deported.” Remarkably, in a June 30 interview the Attorney General even welcomed the states’ threat to sue you, saying, “I’ve got to tell you, I like it that our states and localities are holding the federal government to account, expecting us to do what is our responsibility to the state and locals, and that’s to enforce the law.”

We urge you to respond to this threat to your executive authority by directing the Attorney General to use all legal options to defend the DACA program and thereby allow a generation of young immigrants with great potential to continue contributing to our society and economy.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

RICHARD J. DURBIN
United States Senator

CHARLES E. SCHUMER
United States Senator

PATRICK LEAHY
United States Senator

DIANNE FEINSTEIN
United States Senator

PATTY MURRAY
United States Senator

RON WYDEN
United States Senator

JACK REED
United States Senator

BILL NELSON
United States Senator
DEBBIE STABENOW
United States Senator

GARY C. PETERS
United States Senator
Will do.

Tracy T. Washington  
Staff Assistant  
Office of the Attorney General  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530  
(202) 514-9660  

-----Original Message-----  
From: Cutrona, Danielle (OAG)  
Sent: Thursday, August 24, 2017 9:53 AM  
To: Washington, Tracy T (OAG) <twashington@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
Subject: binder  

Tracy--Please add these to the binder. Thank you.  

Here are today's news clips:

**Immigration**


**Non immigration**


http://www.thedailybeast.com/inside-robert-mueellers-army


**Tweets**
Judge orders tech company to release Web user data from anti-Trump website

Dems challenge Sessions on his ability to withhold funding from sanctuary cities

There may be more than 700,000 cases currently on the immigration courts' dockets.

White House: Mexico will pay for border wall, despite Trump's shutdown threat

The president must decide whether to side with his conservative base or young undocumented immigrants

ICE flagged Santa Rosa, Calif., man two weeks before he allegedly killed girlfriend

Grassley: I expect Trump dossier transcript to be released

Officers nationwide concerned about growing signs of police hatred...
Here are today's news clips:

**Immigration**

- [https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/after-ice-arrests-in-saratoga-springs-some-migrant-workers-fear-showing-up-for-racing-season/2017/08/25/a0cb3a9a-7c45-11e7-a669-b400c5c7e1cc_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/after-ice-arrests-in-saratoga-springs-some-migrant-workers-fear-showing-up-for-racing-season/2017/08/25/a0cb3a9a-7c45-11e7-a669-b400c5c7e1cc_story.html)

**Non immigration**


**Tweets**

- **reason** @reason : 40m40 minutes ago
  New Study Finds Heroin Users Less Likely to Overdose If They Know What Drugs They're Actually Taking

- **House Judiciary**  @HouseJudiciary : 2h2 hours ago
  US to sanction 4 countries for refusing deportations [http://cnn.it/2g6H3B5](http://cnn.it/2g6H3B5) via @CNNPolitics

- **Vox** @voxdotcom : 40m40 minutes ago
DACA, explained why Donald Trump holds the fate of a generation of immigrants in his hands.

NBC Nightly News Verified account @NBCNightlyNews - 37m
ICE: Detainees at Port Isabel Detention Center are being temp. transferred to facilities outside of Hurricane Harvey's path.

The Daily Caller Verified account @DailyCaller - 38m
Portland City Council Eliminates '48-Hour Rule' For Police http://trib.al/1kYICYR

The Daily Caller Verified account @DailyCaller - 35m
California's Top Judge Tells ICE To Leave Courthouses As State Readies Sanctuary Law http://trib.al/AHhr5OH

FAIR Verified account @FAIRImmigration - 2h
Illegal Alien Deported 15 Times on Trial for Alleged Drunk Hit-and-Run http://bit.ly/2wzacII via @BreitbartTexas @JxhnBinder

FAIR Verified account @FAIRImmigration - 19h
Illinois Governor will sign an immigration bill that would protect illegal aliens http://fw.to/abGUG7 via @chicagotribune @kimgeiger

LEAN @LEANforAmerica - 1h
ICE officers remove illegal immigrant who has been removed from the US multiple times and is wanted for homicide...

Anela M. Mangum
Confidential Assistant
Office of Legislative Affairs
U.S. Department of Justice
Phone: 202-514-4828
Fax: 202-514-4482
See what you think. Attached.
Here (attached) is a slightly revised draft...

From: Cutrona, Danielle (OAG)
Sent: Saturday, August 26, 2017 5:01 PM
To: Hunt, Jody (OAG) <johunt@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Re:

That's nearly exactly what we need.

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 26, 2017, at 4:55 PM, Hunt, Jody (OAG) <johunt@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

Duplicative Material
Cutrona, Danielle (OAG)

From: Cutrona, Danielle (OAG)
Sent: Monday, August 28, 2017 7:51 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA); Prior, Ian (OPA); O'Malley, Devin (OPA)
Subject: DACA -- Donald Trump Should End Amnesty | National Review

http://www.nationalreview.com/article/450894/daca-donald-trump-end-amnesty

Sent from my iPhone
Here are today's news clips:

**Immigration**


http://www.politico.com/story/2017/08/30/trump-immigration-dreamers-242152


**Non immigration**


**Tweets**

**Heritage Foundation**  Verified account @Heritage  46m46 minutes ago
The nightmare of Obama's Operation Choke Point is finally over—but without major reforms, it could happen again. http://bit.ly/2ma4uje

**Free Beacon**  Verified account @FreeBeacon  45m45 minutes ago
Report: Trump 'At War With Himself' Over Ending DACA Immigration Program
Dan De Luce @dandeluclce · 1h1 hour ago
Trump Says Border Wall Will Stop Drugs. Here’s What a DEA Intel Report Says.

Mark Krikorian Verified account @MarkSKrikorian · 45m45 minutes ago
@www.CIS.org: On Immigration, If You Want to Know, You’ve Got to Go.

Suzanne Akhras @SuzanneAkhras · 1h1 hour ago
Ending #DACA wld remove ~36,000 ppl from #Illinois’s workforce & cost over 2.2 bil in annual GDP loss #DefendDACA

Indivisible Guide Verified account @IndivisibleTeam · 13h13 hours ago
As Texas reels from Harvey, Trump may tear DACA from 120,000 immigrant youth in the state via @dailykos http://ow.ly/vlfa30eLOOd #DefendDACA

Joe Palazzolo Verified account @joe_palazzolo · 56m56 minutes ago
No. 2 official at DOJ tells conference he hopes tech companies will work with law enforcement. "Otherwise, legislation may be necessary."

Anela M. Mangum
Confidential Assistant
Office of Legislative Affairs
U.S. Department of Justice
Phone: 202-514-4828
Fax: 202-514-4482
| **From:** | Cutrona, Danielle (OAG) |
| **Sent:** | Wednesday, August 30, 2017 10:41 PM |
| **To:** | Hunt, Jody (OAG); Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) |
| **Attachments:** | IMG_0002.JPG; ATT00001.txt |
Sent from my iPhone
Per two ppl briefed on the discussions, Kelly has said moving ahead with a DACA-ending decision right now makes little sense. The deadline 1/

2/ was set by threat of Sept 5 lawsuit by Texas + other states. Sessions and Stephen Miller are said to be telling ppl administration is ...

3/ ... prepared to move ahead.
Here are today's news clips:

**Immigration**


**Non immigration**


**Tweets**

- Axios  Verified account  @axios  · 4h ago
  - "Trump could trigger a furious response from corporations and some members of his own staff if he decides to end DACA"

- The Federalist  Verified account  @FDRLST  · 52m ago
  - "Crime is still at its lowest level in decades."

- CNN Politics  Verified account  @CNNPolitics  · 53m ago
  - "Dreamers" are anxious as Trump's DACA decision looms [http://cnn.it/2iKpnbX](http://cnn.it/2iKpnbX)
Senate panel requests cybersecurity reports from federal agencies

It's kind of a mystery why Trump didn't end DACA already. My new piece:

Trump Organization lawyer expected to appear before House investigators

Cartel busted smuggling meth in penis-shaped candles...

"the sheriff's office notified them [ICE] exactly 16 minutes before Estrada-Margos was due to be released."

CQ Now Gillibrand Leads Democrats in Opposing Trump Nominees ($)

James Comey started drafting statement exonerating Hillary Clinton before FBI interviewed her and top aides

White House Refutes Report Indicating That It Decided to End DACA Program

Sheriff Dand Clarke resigns: report

DHS taps four vendors to construct border wall prototypes

GOP lawmaker aims to force vote to protect Dreamers

Trump's lawyers have made their case to Mueller as to why Trump did not obstruct justice when he fired James Comey.

Paul Manafort's political efforts in Russia's sphere of influence are broader than previously reported

Allowing police to militarize and seize citizens' property hints of tyranny

Anela M. Mangum
Confidential Assistant
Office of Legislative Affairs
U.S. Department of Justice
Phone: 202-514-4828
Fax: 202-514-4482
Research on Dreamers Contradicts Public Image

By Jessica Vaughan on August 31, 2017

Any day now, President Trump is expected to make a decision on what to do about the controversial (and illegal) Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, which was launched by President Obama five years ago to give work permits and protection from deportation to illegal aliens who arrived as children and had lived here for five years — the so-called "Dreamers". Your guess is as good as mine on what he will do, but the reality is that only Congress can give authentic and permanent legal status to the Dreamers. Before they do, they should take the time to find out more about the characteristics of this population. As it turns out, the actual educational attainment and economic contributions of this group of illegal aliens does not quite match up with the public image that has been cultivated by amnesty activists and their supporters.

The federal government has disclosed very little about the DACA beneficiaries, except for their countries of citizenship, states of residence, age, sex, and marital status (even though it collects much more information, including mode of entry, education, criminal history and English proficiency).

I have found only one source of credible, useful information for policymakers about the DACA population. It is an ongoing project of Harvard University researcher Roberto G Gonzales, called the National Undocumented Research Project. There are important (self-acknowledged) caveats to the findings: The research is based on an online survey of just over 2,000 self-described DACA-eligible respondents and about 200 follow-up interviews. Gonzales believes that for a variety of reasons, the respondents are more educated and well-off than the DACA population as a whole.

Nevertheless, the findings are interesting. Here is a sample:

- 73 percent of DACA recipients he surveyed live in a low-income household (defined as qualifying for free lunch in high school);
- 22 percent have earned a degree from a four-year college or university;
- 21 percent have dropped out of high school;
- 20 percent have no education beyond high school and no plans to attend college;
- 59 percent obtained a new job with a DACA work permit, but only 45 percent increased their overall earnings;
- 36 percent have a parent who holds a bachelor's degree; and
- 51 percent were already employed before DACA.

None of this is to suggest that these individuals should not be considered for an amnesty or legalization program, but to suggest that the arguments in favor of such a program are largely political rather than economic. Immigrants who are not highly educated and who are working in low-paying jobs are more likely to access welfare and other public assistance programs over the course of their lives. If Congress decides to enact an amnesty program, which I think is likely, then it would make sense from a fiscal standpoint to cut other forms of legal immigration, such as the chain migration categories, that also tend to strain our public coffers.

Raise More than a Quarter Trillion Dollars of Tax
Revenue by Ending Tax Subsidies for Unauthorized Employment of Illegal Aliens

By CIS on August 31, 2017
Download a PDF of this Backgrounder

Aliens enter the United States without authorization for many reasons, but for most of them the goal is to secure employment at much higher wages than are available in their native countries. While breaking the law provides very significant economic benefits to these illegal workers and to the businesses that hire them, it comes at a cost to American workers. According to Harvard economist George Borjas, recent empirical research indicates that American workers suffer a reduction of $99 billion to $118 billion in annual wages because of illegal immigration.¹

The economic rewards of unauthorized employment of aliens are not limited to the higher wages of the illegal workers and the lower labor costs of their employers. Unauthorized alien workers and their employers also enjoy multi-billion dollar tax deductions and tax credits that were enacted into law for the benefit of law-abiding workers and businesses.

When Congress returns from summer recess on September 5, it is expected to focus attention on a major reform of the federal income tax system, including a combination of lower rates and other tax incentives to families and to businesses. The largest challenge facing tax reformers is finding sufficient additional revenue to pay for the tax cuts and tax incentives they promised to the people who elected them. In fairness to the American families and businesses to whom these tax cuts have been promised, and in particular to the American families whose household incomes have been diminished by illegal immigration, Congress should consider eliminating unwarranted tax breaks to unauthorized alien workers and their employers.

Each of the following reforms — one that eliminates a tax subsidy for employers of unauthorized aliens and the other that eliminates a tax subsidy for the unauthorized workers — comes with an estimate of the additional revenues that would be raised by the reform. Together they could raise $296 billion over 10 years — more than a quarter-trillion dollars.

1. No Deduction for Wages Paid to Illegal Aliens. Section 162(e) of the Internal Revenue Code denies a deduction for "illegal payments". Even though it is illegal to employ unauthorized alien workers, the IRS has ruled that section 162(e) does not apply to the wages paid to those aliens, even if the employer knowingly broke the law.² On January 3, 2017, Rep. Steve King and eight other members of Congress introduced H.R. 176, the New Illegal Deduction Elimination Act, Section 2 of which would amend section 162(e) to clarify that no deduction is allowed for wages paid to unauthorized alien workers. H.R. 176 provides employers a "safe harbor" allowing a deduction to employers that used the Department of Homeland Security's free, online E-Verify system to confirm the employee's eligibility to work.

The amount of wages paid to unauthorized alien workers cannot be known with certainty. One of the most extensive studies of unauthorized immigrants in the United States was conducted by the Pew Hispanic Center in 2009.³ According to that study, there were approximately 8.3 million undocumented immigrants in the U.S. labor force, a figure that Pew more recently estimated had fallen to 8.0 million.² Pew estimated the median household income of unauthorized worker families to be approximately $36,000 and that there were approximately 1.75 workers per household, implying median per-worker earnings of $20,571.² Multiplying Pew's estimated number of unauthorized alien workers by the earnings-per-worker estimate yields an estimated total of wages paid to unauthorized alien workers of approximately $165 billion.

Many unauthorized workers are employed in the "underground economy", i.e., by households and other employers that are not reporting or paying payroll taxes and presumably are not deducting the wages. A 2013 report by the Social Security Administration estimated that, of approximately seven million alien workers in various irregular work statuses in 2010, approximately 3.1 million (44 percent) had Social Security numbers (mostly false or fraudulently secured), while approximately 3.9 million (56 percent) were working in the "underground economy".² On the assumption that employers reported payroll taxes and claimed wage expense deductions only for the 44 percent of unauthorized workers who could produce an SSN, and that most employers deducted wages at or near the corporate tax rate of 35 percent, we estimate that disallowing a deduction for wages paid to unauthorized alien workers would increase federal
tax revenues by approximately $25.4 billion per year (35 percent x 44 percent x $165 billion), or $254 billion over 10 years.

2. **Deny Refundable Tax Credits to Illegal Aliens.** Section 24(a) of the Internal Revenue Code allows a $1,000 per-child tax credit for taxpayers whose earnings fall below a specified threshold. The Child Tax Credit is refundable to the extent it exceeds the taxpayer's tax liability, in which case it is referred to as the Additional Child Tax Credit or ACTC. A 2011 report by the U.S. Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration explained that aliens authorized to work in the United States are required to obtain a Social Security number (SSN). For aliens who need to file U.S. federal tax returns for other reasons, such as to claim refunds of withholding tax on dividends, the IRS issues Individual Tax Identification Numbers (ITINs). Unfortunately, according to the inspector general, the IRS had been permitting aliens to claim ACTCs on returns that reported an ITIN rather than a Social Security number.

The payment of ACTCs to illegal aliens is arguably a direct violation of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act of 1996 ("PRWOA"), which expressly provides that an illegal alien "is not eligible for any Federal public benefit." The IRS has applied the PRWOA rule to prohibit payments of Earned Income Tax Credits to ITIN filers, but based on a questionable interpretation of the law has allowed ITIN filers refunds of ACTCs. According to the Inspector General, "based on claims made in Processing Year 2010, disallowance of the ACTC to filers without a valid SSN would reduce Federal outlays by approximately $8.4 billion over 2 years," i.e., $4.2 billion per year. Although the inspector general's figures are based on 2010 fiscal data, Treasury Department tax expenditure estimates indicate that the total child tax credit expenditure was virtually unchanged between 2010 and 2017. Accordingly, based on the inspector general's report, we estimate that limiting the Child Tax Credit to taxpayers with Social Security numbers would increase federal tax revenues by approximately $4.2 billion per year, or $42 billion over 10 years.

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**End Notes**

2. NSAR 09235, Vaughn # 9235.
4. Id. at i.
6. Supra n. 3 at 16.
10. *Fiscal Year 2011 Tax Expenditures*.
11. *Fiscal Year 2017 Tax Expenditures*.
1. Sen Dianne Feinstein @SenFeinstein 1m1 minute ago
   Legislation to provide #DACA recipients permanent protection from deportation— and eventual citizenship— MUST be on the Senate's agenda.
Says later this afternoon or this weekend

Begin forwarded message:

From: RNC War Room <Warroom@gop.com>
Date: September 1, 2017 at 12:17:47 PM CDT
To: undisclosed-recipients:;
Subject: MSNBC – President Donald Trump Answers Questions From Reporters In The Oval Office

MSNBC – President Donald Trump Answers Questions From Reporters In The Oval Office
http://mms.tvnews.com/transcript.asp?PlayClip=FALSE&DTS=true&DateTime=09%2F01%2F2017+13%3A12%3A34&market=m1&StationID=205

REPORTER: a decision on daca?

PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP: sometime today or over the weekend we’ll have a decision.

REPORTER: should dreamers be worried?

PRESIDENT TRUMP: we love the dreamers, we love everybody, thank you very much, thank you, we’ll issue it sometime over the weekend. maybe this afternoon.

REPORTER: [INAUDIBLE QUESTION]

PRESIDENT TRUMP: we’re working on emergency funding, we’re doing everything we can, and we’re working very well with the governor.

REPORTER: thank you.

PRESIDENT TRUMP: who has done a terrific job. dreamers are terrific. thank you very much, everybody.

REPORTER: have a good afternoon.

PRESIDENT TRUMP: thank you.
Here are today’s news clips:

**Immigration**


**Non-immigration**


Four companies chosen to build prototypes of border wall

"Art of the Deal" co-author: Mueller will find Trump is worth much less than he says

Silicon Valley to President Trump: "Dreamers are vital"

Four illegal immigrants charged with re-entry in PA...

Moderate Republicans pitch DACA fix, but are short on votes

Sunlight Foundation reports special counsel Mueller is working with agents in the IRS’ criminal investigations unit

Trump voter fraud panel head confirms he’s a paid Breitbart columnist

"DACA has nothing to do with heart, everything to do with rule of law"

Trump Country Swing Voters Support Legal Immigration Cuts, Poll Finds

If Trump ends #DACA, 800,000 undocumented immigrants, like Anahi Sosa, would be impacted.
Sent from my iPad
Prior, Ian (OPA)

From: Prior, Ian (OPA)
Sent: Monday, September 04, 2017 4:42 PM
To: Cutrona, Danielle (OAG)
Cc: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Subject: Re: Tv legal surrogates

For information on office hours, access to media events, and standard ground rules for interviews, please click [here](#).

On Sep 4, 2017, at 4:40 PM, Cutrona, Danielle (OAG) <dcutrona@imd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Monday, September 4, 2017 4:25 PM
To: Prior, Ian (OPA) <Prior@imd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: Cutrona, Danielle (OAG) <dcutrona@imd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Re: Tv legal surrogates

On Sep 4, 2017, at 4:14 PM, Prior, Ian (OPA) <Prior@imd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

Who would be our top 3-4 for DACA?

Ian D. Prior
Principal Deputy Director of Public Affairs
Office: 202.616.0911
Cell: (b) (6)

For information on office hours, access to media events, and standard ground rules for interviews, please click [here](#).
Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)

From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Monday, September 04, 2017 5:13 PM
To: Prior, Ian (OPA)
Cc: Cutrona, Danielle (OAG)
Subject: Re: Tv legal surrogates

(b) (5)

On Sep 4, 2017, at 4:48 PM, Prior, Ian (OPA) <lPrior@imd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

(b) (5)

Ian D. Prior
Principal Deputy Director of Public Affairs
Office: 202.616.0911
Cell: (b) (8)

For information on office hours, access to media events, and standard ground rules for interviews, please click here.

On Sep 4, 2017, at 4:40 PM, Cutrona, Danielle (OAG) <dcutrona@imd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

Duplicative Material
From: Cutrona, Danielle (OAG)
Sent: Monday, September 4, 2017 5:42 PM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Attachments: statement2.docx
Dear Acting Secretary Duke,

I write to advise that the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) should rescind the June 15, 2012, DHS Memorandum entitled “Exercising Prosecutorial Discretion with Respect to Individuals Who Came to the United States as Children,” as well as any related memoranda or guidance. This policy, known as “Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals” (DACA), allows certain individuals who are without lawful status in the United States to request and receive a renewable, two-year presumptive reprieve from removal, and other benefits such as work authorization and participation in the Social Security program.

DACA was effectuated by the previous administration through executive action, without proper statutory authority and no established end-date, after Congress’ repeated rejection of proposed legislation that would have accomplished a similar result. Such an open-ended circumvention of immigration laws was an unconstitutional exercise of authority by the Executive Branch. The related Deferred Action for Parents of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents (DAPA) policy was enjoined on a nationwide basis in a decision affirmed by the Fifth Circuit on the basis of multiple legal grounds and then by the Supreme Court by an equally divided vote. See Texas v. United States, 86 F. Supp. 3d 591, 669-70 (S.D. Tex.), aff’d, 809 F.3d 134, 171-86 (5th Cir. 2015), aff’d by equally divided Court, 136 S. Ct. 2271 (2016). Then-Secretary of Homeland Security John Kelly rescinded the DAPA policy in June. Because the DACA policy has the same legal and constitutional defects that the courts recognized as to DAPA, it is likely that potentially imminent litigation would yield similar results with respect to DACA.

In light of the costs and burdens that will be imposed on DHS associated with rescinding this policy, DHS should consider an orderly and efficient wind-down process.

As Attorney General of the United States, I have a duty to defend the Constitution and to faithfully execute the laws passed by Congress. Proper enforcement of our immigration laws is, as President Trump consistently said, critical to the national interest and to the restoration of the rule of law in our country. The Department of Justice stands ready to assist and to continue to support DHS in these important efforts.

Sincerely,

Jefferson B. Sessions III
FOR PLANNING PURPOSES ONLY
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2017

ATTORNEY GENERAL SESSIONS TO HOLD BRIEFING RELATED TO THE DEFERRED ACTION FOR CHILDHOOD ARRIVALS PROGRAM

****** MEDIA ADVISORY ******

WASHINGTON – Attorney General Jeff Sessions will hold a briefing TOMORROW, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. to discuss the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program.
till to address the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program.

**WHO:**
Attorney General Jeff Sessions

**WHEN:**
Tuesday, September 5, 2017
11:00 a.m. EDT

**WHERE:**
Department of Justice
Seventh Floor Conference Room
950 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington, D.C. 20530

**OPEN PRESS**
(Camera Preset by: 10:15 a.m. EDT // Final Access: 10:45 a.m. EDT)

*The Attorney General will not be taking questions following the briefing.

**LIVESTREAM ON JUSTICE.GOV/LIVE**

NOTE: All media must RSVP and present government-issued photo I.D. (such as a driver’s license) as well as valid media credentials. The RSVP and any inquiries regarding logistics should be directed to Sarah Sutton at sarah.e.sutton@usdoj.gov and press@usdoj.gov. Please include the email address of the person(s) attending the event, so that we may reach them directly if details change.

###

**AG**

Do not reply to this message. If you have questions, please use the contacts in the message or call the Office of Public Affairs at 202-514-2007.
Please see attached. This is culling from the email that went back and forth earlier and will be for Sarah and Into answer the questions we will get from press tomorrow.

Please change/redline away.
On Sep 4, 2017, at 9:38 PM, Prior, Ian (OPA) <lPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

(b) (5)
Obama lawyer who worked on DACA admits it’s probably unconstitutional -- twitchy.com


Sent from my iPhone
From: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Sent: Tuesday, September 5, 2017 8:52 AM
To: Hunt, Jody (OAG); Cutrona, Danielle (OAG); Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)
Subject: latest draft
Attachments: statement 4.docx

***
Sarah Isgur Flores
Director of Public Affairs
202.305.5808
From: Cutrona, Danielle (OAG)
Sent: Tuesday, September 05, 2017 9:54 AM
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA); Hunt, Jody (OAG)
Attachments: statement 5.docx
Prior, Ian (OPA)

From: Prior, Ian (OPA)
Sent: Tuesday, September 5, 2017 10:39 AM
To: Cutrona, Danielle (OAG)
Subject: Want to make sure I got your changes right
Attachments: DACA QA.docx
Yes

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 5, 2017, at 10:38 AM, Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@imd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

<DACA QA.docx>
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2017

NOTE: The letter from the Attorney General can be viewed here.

ATTORNEY GENERAL SESSIONS DELIVERS REMARKS ON DACA

Washington, DC

Remarks as prepared for delivery

Good morning. I am here today to announce that the program known as DACA
that was effectuated under the Obama Administration is being rescinded.

The DACA program was implemented in 2012 and essentially provided a legal status for recipients for a renewable two-year term, work authorization and other benefits, including participation in the social security program, to 800,000 mostly-adult illegal aliens.

This policy was implemented unilaterally to great controversy and legal concern after Congress rejected legislative proposals to extend similar benefits on numerous occasions to this same group of illegal aliens.

In other words, the executive branch, through DACA, deliberately sought to achieve what the legislative branch specifically refused to authorize on multiple occasions. Such an open-ended circumvention of immigration laws was an unconstitutional exercise of authority by the Executive Branch.

The effect of this unilateral executive amnesty, among other things, contributed to a surge of unaccompanied minors on the southern border that yielded terrible humanitarian consequences. It also denied jobs to hundreds of thousands of Americans by allowing those same jobs to go to illegal aliens.

We inherited from our Founders—and have advanced—an unsurpassed legal heritage, which is the foundation of our freedom, safety, and prosperity.

As the Attorney General, it is my duty to ensure that the laws of the United States are enforced and that the Constitutional order is upheld.

No greater good can be done for the overall health and well-being of our Republic, than preserving and strengthening the impartial rule of law. Societies where the rule of law is treasured are societies that tend to flourish and succeed.

Societies where the rule of law is subject to political whims and personal biases tend to become societies afflicted by corruption, poverty, and human suffering.

To have a lawful system of immigration that serves the national interest, we cannot admit everyone who would like to come here. That is an open border policy and the American people have rightly rejected it.

Therefore, the nation must set and enforce a limit on how many immigrants we admit each year and that means all can not be accepted.

This does not mean they are bad people or that our nation disrespects or demeans them in any way. It means we are properly enforcing our laws as Congress has passed them.
It is with these principles and duties in mind, and in light of imminent litigation, that we reviewed the Obama Administration's DACA policy.

Our collective wisdom is that the policy is vulnerable to the same legal and constitutional challenges that the courts recognized with respect to the DAPA program, which was enjoined on a nationwide basis in a decision affirmed by the Fifth Circuit.

The Fifth Circuit specifically concluded that DACA had not been implemented in a fashion that allowed sufficient discretion, and that DAPA was "foreclosed by Congress's careful plan."

In other words, it was inconsistent with the Constitution's separation of powers. That decision was affirmed by the Supreme Court by an equally divided vote.

If we were to keep the Obama Administration's executive amnesty policy, the likeliest outcome is that it would be enjoined just as was DAPA. The Department of Justice has advised the President and the Department of Homeland Security that DHS should begin an orderly, lawful wind down, including the cancellation of the memo that authorized this program.

Acting Secretary Duke has chosen, appropriately, to initiate a wind down process. This will enable DHS to conduct an orderly change and fulfill the desire of this administration to create a time period for Congress to act—should it so choose. We firmly believe this is the responsible path.

Simply put, if we are to further our goal of strengthening the constitutional order and the rule of law in America, the Department of Justice cannot defend this type of overreach.

George Washington University Law School Professor Jonathan Turley in testimony before the House Judiciary Committee was clear about the enormous constitutional infirmities raised by these policies.

He said: "In ordering this blanket exception, President Obama was nullifying part of a law that he simply disagreed with....If a president can claim sweeping discretion to suspend key federal laws, the entire legislative process becomes little more than a pretense...The circumvention of the legislative process not only undermines the authority of this branch but destabilizes the tripartite system as a whole."

Ending the previous Administration's disrespect for the legislative process is an
important first step. All immigration policies should serve the interests of the people of the United States—lawful immigrant and native born alike.

Congress should carefully and thoughtfully pursue the types of reforms that are right for the American people. Our nation is comprised of good and decent people who want their government’s leaders to fulfill their promises and advance an immigration policy that serves the national interest.

We are a people of compassion and we are a people of law. But there is nothing compassionate about the failure to enforce immigration laws.

Enforcing the law saves lives, protects communities and taxpayers, and prevents human suffering. Failure to enforce the laws in the past has put our nation at risk of crime, violence and even terrorism.

The compassionate thing is to end the lawlessness, enforce our laws, and, if Congress chooses to make changes to those laws, to do so through the process set forth by our Founders in a way that advances the interest of the nation.

That is what the President has promised to do and has delivered to the American people.

Under President Trump’s leadership, this administration has made great progress in the last few months toward establishing a lawful and constitutional immigration system. This makes us safer and more secure.

It will further economically the lives of millions who are struggling. And it will enable our country to more effectively teach new immigrants about our system of government and assimilate them to the cultural understandings that support it.

The substantial progress in reducing illegal immigration at our border seen in recent months is almost entirely the product of the leadership of President Trump and his inspired federal immigration officers. But the problem is not solved. And without more action, we could see illegality rise again rather than be eliminated.

As a candidate, and now in office, President Trump has offered specific ideas and legislative solutions that will protect American workers, increase wages and salaries, defend our national security, ensure the public safety, and increase the general well-being of the American people.

He has worked closely with many members of Congress, including in the introduction of the RAISE Act, which would produce enormous benefits for our country. This is how our democratic process works.
There are many powerful interest groups in this country and every one of them has a constitutional right to advocate their views and represent whomever they choose.

But the Department of Justice does not represent any narrow interest or any subset of the American people. We represent all of the American people and protect the integrity of our Constitution. That is our charge.

We at Department of Justice are proud and honored to work to advance this vision for America and to do our best each day to ensure the safety and security of the American people.

Thank you.

###

AG
17-967

Do not reply to this message. If you have questions, please use the contacts in the message or call the Office of Public Affairs at 202-514-2007.

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PRESS GUIDANCE
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2017

ATTORNEY GENERAL

11:00 a.m. EDT
Attorney General Jeff Sessions will hold a briefing to address the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program.
Department of Justice
Seventh Floor Conference Room
950 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington, D.C. 20530
OPEN PRESS

NOTE: All media must RSVP and present government-issued photo
I.D. (such as a driver’s license) as well as valid media
credentials. The RSVP and any inquiries regarding logistics should be directed
to Sarah Sutton at sarah.e.sutton@usdoj.gov and press@usdoj.gov. Please include
the email address of the person(s) attending the event, so that we may reach
them directly if details change.

PRESS RELEASES
The Civil Rights Division released one press release today. (Ehrsam)

EVENTS/HEARINGS
There are no scheduled public events.

NIGHT DUTY OFFICER
Devin O'Malley

Department of Justice
Public Affairs Office (202) 514-2007
After Hours (202) 514-2000

Do not reply to this message. If you have questions, please use the contacts in the
message or call the Office of Public Affairs at 202-514-2007.
Good morning. I am here today to announce that the program known as DACA that was effectuated under the Obama Administration is being rescinded.
Please see below for how I want to respond to Politifact. Let me know if you have issues/suggestions. Need as soon as you can.

Ian D. Prior  
Principal Deputy Director of Public Affairs  
Department of Justice  
Office: 202.616.0911  
Cell: (b) (6)

For information on office hours, access to media events, and standard ground rules for interviews, please click here.

---

From: Prior, Ian (OPA)  
Sent: Tuesday, September 5, 2017 1:55 PM  
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <siflores@imd.usdoj.gov>  
Subject: FW: PolitiFact query -- DACA remarks

Here is how I want to respond to Politifact. Any issues?

The DACA program "essentially provided a legal status for recipients."

(b) (5)

The DACA program provided "participation in the Social Security program"

(b) (5)

DACA covers "800,000 mostly adult illegal aliens."

(b) (5)

DACA is "unilateral executive amnesty."

(b) (5)
DACA "denied jobs to hundreds of thousands of Americans by allowing those same illegal aliens to take those jobs."

"Substantial progress in reducing illegal immigration at our border seen in recent months is almost entirely due to the leadership of President Trump."

"The effect of this unilateral executive amnesty (DACA), among other things, contributed to a surge of minors at the southern border that yielded terrible humanitarian consequences."

Hello,

This is Miriam Valverde, fact-checker for PolitiFact.

We are fact-checking claims made today by Attorney General Jeff Sessions in his announcement to rescind DACA.

I'm reaching out to request information that was used to back his claims. Below (in bold) is what we are checking.
looking into. We would like to know what information/reports/data the claims are based on.

The DACA program "essentially provided a legal status for recipients."

The DACA program provided "participation in the Social Security program"

DACA covers "800,000 mostly adult illegal aliens."

DACA is "unilateral executive amnesty."

DACA "denied jobs to hundreds of thousands of Americans by allowing those same illegal aliens to take those jobs."

"Substantial progress in reducing illegal immigration at our border seen in recent months is almost entirely due to the leadership of President Trump."

"The effect of this unilateral executive amnesty (DACA), among other things, contributed to a surge of minors at the southern border that yielded terrible humanitarian consequences."

We look forward to your response at your earliest convenience. We are publishing this afternoon. Thank you!
From: Cutrona, Danielle (OAG)  
Sent: Tuesday, September 5, 2017 2:13 PM  
To: Prior, Ian (OPA)  
Subject: RE: PolitiFact query -- DACA remarks  

Comments below  

From: Prior, Ian (OPA)  
Sent: Tuesday, September 5, 2017 2:02 PM  
To: Cutrona, Danielle (OAG)  
Sent: Tuesday, September 5, 2017 1:55 PM  
To: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)  
Subject: FW: PolitiFact query -- DACA remarks  

Please see below for how I want to respond to Politifact. Let me know if you have issues/suggestions. Need as soon as you can.

Ian D. Prior  
Principal Deputy Director of Public Affairs  
Department of Justice  
Office: 202.616.0911  
Cell: (b) (8)  

For information on office hours, access to media events, and standard ground rules for interviews, please click here.

The DACA program "essentially provided a legal status for recipients."  

The DACA program provided "participation in the Social Security program"  

DACA covers "800,000 mostly adult illegal aliens."
DACA is "unilateral executive amnesty."

DACA "denied jobs to hundreds of thousands of Americans by allowing those same illegal aliens to take those jobs."

"Substantial progress in reducing illegal immigration at our border seen in recent months is almost entirely due to the leadership of President Trump."

"The effect of this unilateral executive amnesty (DACA), among other things, contributed to a surge of minors at the southern border that yielded terrible humanitarian consequences."

Ian D. Prior
Principal Deputy Director of Public Affairs
Department of Justice
Office: 202.616.0911
Cell: (b)(6)

For information on office hours, access to media events, and standard ground rules for interviews, please click here.

From: Miriam Valverde
Sent: Tuesday, September 5, 2017 1:30 PM
To: Prior, Ian (OPA) <Prior@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Press <Press@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: PolitiFact query -- DACA remarks
Top Stories

Jeff Sessions announces DACA program to be rescinded
"Attorney General Jeff Sessions announced the Trump administration's intentions to officially rescind the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, effectively ending the 2012 program that has deferred deportations for those who came to the United States as young immigrants. Sessions called the current program an 'unconstitutional' overreach of executive authority that caused great legal concern after Congress initially rejected the legislative proposals to extend similar benefits to illegal immigrants." (CBS News)

Read Jeff Sessions' Letter Calling for the End of DACA
"Attorney General Jeff Sessions said the Trump Administration has decided to rescind Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, or DACA, a program enacted by former President Barack Obama that has prevented nearly 800,000 immigrants from deportation since 2012. The Trump Administration decided to phase out the program following the threat of legal action by Republican attorneys general from nine states against DACA. Congress now has six months to develop a policy that decides the fate of Dreamers, or those who have benefitted from the program. In a letter to Acting Department of Homeland Security Secretary Elaine Duke on Monday, Sessions wrote that the program "was an unconstitutional exercise of authority by the Executive Branch" that would not withstand a court challenge." (TIME)

Jeff Sessions' DOJ Just Secured An Islamic Group's Right To Build A Mosque
"The Department of Justice (DOJ) announced Monday it has settled a civil rights dispute with a Pennsylvania township that refused to approve the construction of a mosque for a local Muslim congregation. The settlement provides the congregation the necessary zoning approval to build the mosque, and proscribes other remedial measures. The congregation must still obtain approval from the town and various county and state regulators before construction begins. "Federal law protects the rights of all religious communities to build places of worship free from discrimination," said John Gore, acting chief of DOJ's Civil Rights Division. "This agreement ensures that all citizens of Bensalem Township may freely exercise this important civil right." The Department intervened in the long-running dispute in 2016. Government lawyers sued the town of Bensalem, Penn., arguing the town zoning board discriminated against an Islamic group by denying their request for a routine zoning variance in order to build a mosque on three adjoining parcels owned by the congregation. DOJ argued the
denial constituted a violation of the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act (RLUIPA)." (The Daily Caller)

Novo Nordisk Settles U.S. Suit Over Victoza for $58.65 Million
"Novo Nordisk A/S reached a settlement with the U.S. Justice Department to end a suit over the marketing and sale of Victoza, a diabetes treatment. The drugmaker agreed to pay $58.65 million, including $12.15 million for alleged violations of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetics Act, according to a statement by the Justice Department. The government filed the complaint in the Washington federal court earlier Tuesday. The court docket erroneously showed the U.S. demanding $12.15 billion." (Bloomberg)

Top Issues and Accomplishments

Novo Nordisk Agrees To Pay $58 Million For Failure To Comply With FDA-Mandated Risk Program
Pharmaceutical Manufacturer Novo Nordisk Inc. will pay $58.65 million to resolve allegations that the company failed to comply with the FDA-mandated Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy (REMS) for its Type II diabetes medication Victoza, the Justice Department announced today. The resolution includes disgorgement of $12.15 million for alleged violations of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FDCA) from 2010 to 2012 and a payment of $46.5 million for alleged violations of the False Claims Act (FCA) from 2010 to 2014. Novo Nordisk is a subsidiary of Novo Nordisk U.S. Holdings Inc., which is a subsidiary of Novo Nordisk A/S of Denmark. Novo Nordisk’s U.S. headquarters is in Plainsboro, New Jersey.

Attorney General Sessions Delivers Remarks On DACA
“Good morning. I am here today to announce that the program known as DACA that was effectuated under the Obama Administration is being rescinded. The DACA program was implemented in 2012 and essentially provided a legal status for recipients for a renewable two-year term, work authorization and other benefits, including participation in the social security program, to 800,000 mostly-adult illegal aliens. This policy was implemented unilaterally to great controversy and legal concern after Congress rejected legislative proposals to extend similar benefits on numerous occasions to this same group of illegal aliens. In other words, the executive branch, through DACA, deliberately sought to achieve what the legislative branch specifically refused to authorize on multiple occasions. Such an open-ended circumvention of immigration laws was an unconstitutional exercise of authority by the Executive Branch. The effect of this unilateral executive amnesty, among other things, contributed to a surge of unaccompanied minors on the southern border that yielded terrible humanitarian consequences. It also denied jobs to hundreds of thousands of Americans by allowing those same jobs to go to illegal aliens. We inherited from our Founders—and have advanced—an unsurpassed legal heritage, which is the foundation of our freedom, safety, and prosperity. As the Attorney General, it is my duty to ensure that the laws of the United States are enforced and that the Constitutional order is upheld...”

Justice Department And Bensalem Township Settle Lawsuit Over Alleged Religious Land Use And Institutionalized Persons Act Violations
The Justice Department today announced an agreement with Bensalem Township, Pennsylvania, to resolve allegations that the Township violated the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act of 2000 (RLUIPA) when the Township denied zoning approval to allow the Bensalem Masjid to build a mosque on three adjoining parcels of land in the Township. "Federal law protects the rights of all religious communities to build places of worship free from discrimination," said Acting Assistant Attorney General John Gore, head of the Justice Department’s Civil Rights Division. "This agreement ensures that all citizens of Bensalem Township may freely exercise this important civil right." The agreement resolves a lawsuit that the Department filed in July 2016. A separate agreement resolving a similar lawsuit brought by the Bensalem Masjid against Bensalem Township has also been reached.
Upcoming Events

There are no scheduled public events.

###
Mangum, Anela M. (OLA)

From: Mangum, Anela M. (OLA)
Sent: Tuesday, September 5, 2017 6:26 PM
To: Hudson, Andrew (OLP); Cutrona, Danielle (OAG); Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA); Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA); Mizelle, Chad (ODAG); Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG); Barnett, Gary E. (OAG); Tucker, Rachael (OAG); Pickell, Lindsay A. (OLA); Escalona, Prim F. (OLA)
Subject: News Clips, 9/5

Here are today's news clips:

Immigration


https://townhall.com/tipsheet/cortneovbrien/2017/09/05/sessions-briefing-n2377233


http://thehill.com/latino/348848-sessions-says-DACA-to-end-in-six-months


Non immigration


Tweets
Washington Examiner  Verified account  @dcexaminer  • 47m47 minutes ago
#BREAKING: Jeff Sessions: Obama's DACA program "is being rescinded" http://washex.am/2eBIksn

Jessica Vaughan  @JessicaV_CIS  • 48m48 minutes ago
Sessions: US must enforce immigration limits. That doesn't mean that would-be immigrants are "bad people." http://fvre.it/hQ52D6dN.4

POLITICO  45rlch  Verified account  @politico_45  • 49m49 minutes ago
Trump expected to allow Dreamers to renew work permits for next 6 months http://politi.co/2gDw37k

CBS News  Verified account  @CBSNews  • 52m52 minutes ago
"The program known as DACA that was effectuated under the Obama administration is being rescinded," AG Sessions says http://cbsn.ws/2BXKwiU

Alan Gomez  Verified account  @alangomez  • 49m49 minutes ago
Attorney General Sessions on why administration won't defend DACA in court: "The Department of Justice cannot defend this overreach."

Vox  Verified account  @voxdotcom  • 50m50 minutes ago
Trump just turned DACA into a ticking time bomb for 800,000 immigrants

CNN  Verified account  @CNN  • 52m52 minutes ago
Business leaders call on Trump to protect DACA http://cnn.it/2wBzJq

Yahoo News  Verified account  @YahooNews  • 52m52 minutes ago
Trump family and associates to be in Russia probe crosshairs https://vho.o.it/2w2TEUr

Washington Examiner Verified account  @dcexaminer  • 1h1 hour ago
AG Sessions: DACA "denied jobs to hundreds of thousands of Americans"

Tal Kopan  Verified account  @TalKopan  • 1h1 hour ago
"The compassionate thing to do is end the lawlessness, enforce our laws," Sessions says about DACA decision

David Nakamura  Verified account  @DavidNakamura  • 1h1 hour ago
Notably, Sessions cast #DACA as directly responsible for 2014 border surge of Central American minors (who were fleeing drugs, gangs)

The Hill  Verified account  @thehill  • 1h1 hour ago
#BREAKING: Sessions announces Trump to end DACA in six months http://hill.cm/APWCMK6

FOX Business  Verified account  @FoxBusiness  • 1h1 hour ago
Sessions: "The nation must set, and enforce, a limit on how many immigrants we admit each year, and that means all cannot be accepted."

Katie Pavlich  Verified account  @KatiePavlich  • 1h1 hour ago
DACA via executive fiat was unconstitutional. Obama knew it, admitted so, did it anyway. Trump right to end it & allow Congress to pass it.

The New York Times  Verified account  @nytimes  • 1h1 hour ago
Jeff Sessions: "The program known as DACA that was effectuated under the Obama administration is being rescinded" http://nyti.ms/2eHdIZV

WatchYourRepsSC  @WatchYourRepsSC  • 16h16 hours ago
ICE Is Abusing the ACLU's Clients Because They Are Fighting Trump's Deportation Machine

Document ID: 0.7.17107.11210
Betsy Woodruff  Verified account @woodruffbets 1h1 hour ago
Sessions didn't just say DACA is unlawful; he also said it was bad policy - sounded like a thinly veiled message to Congress

David Nakamura  Verified account @DavidNakamura 1h1 hour ago
DHS says it will not target dreamers once permits expire next year but those encountered will face immigration court

Vox  Verified account @voxdotcom 1h1 hour ago
Why ending DACA is so unprecedented

Justice Department  Verified account @TheJusticeDept 1h1 hour ago
Attorney General Sessions Delivers Remarks on DACA https://www.justice.gov/opa/speech/attorney-general-sessions-delivers-remarks-daca ...

Washington Examiner  Verified account @dcexaminer 1h1 hour ago
#BREAKING: Homeland Security will begin winding down DACA immediately http://washex.am2gDaIe9

Washington Post  Verified account @washingtonpost 1h1 hour ago
Opinion: 'Don't be fooled by the scam that Trump will pull today on DACA'

Talking Points Memo  Verified account @TPM 1h1 hour ago
BREAKING: Trump officially ends DACA program, has Sessions deliver the bad news http://bit.ly/2eZP97M

The Hill  Verified account @thehill 2h2 hours ago
GOP senator suggests keeping DACA in exchange for strict limits on legal immigration http://hill.cm/d0IkVL

The Hill  Verified account @thehill 2h2 hours ago
LGBT group: Trump civil rights nominee must be blocked http://hill.cm/ZJCUv35

Talking Points Memo  Verified account @TPM 2h2 hours ago

Anela M. Mangum
Confidential Assistant
Office of Legislative Affairs
U.S. Department of Justice
Phone: 202-514-4828
Fax: 202-514-4482
Ed Martin

From: Ed Martin
Sent: Wednesday, September 6, 2017 8:20 AM
To: Hanrahan, Peggi (OAG)
Subject: Re: SCHLAFLY COLUMN: On DACA (864 words)

God bless you all! We are praying for you.

Ed

---

Ed Martin
President, Phyllis Schlafly Eagles
President, Eagle Forum Education and Legal Defense Fund
President, Gen. Jack Singlaub’s America’s Future, Inc.

Phyllis Schlafly Center
7800 Bonhomme Avenue
Clayton, Missouri 63105
(314)721-1213

On Wed, Sep 6, 2017 at 7:17 AM, Hanrahan, Peggi (OAG) <Peggi.Hanrahan@usdoj.gov> wrote:

Thanks!

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 5, 2017, at 5:24 PM, Ed Martin wrote:

Peggi
Below for AG Sessions.
Ed

Ed Martin
President, Phyllis Schlafly Eagles
President, Eagle Forum Education and Legal Defense Fund
President, Gen. Jack Singlaub’s America’s Future, Inc.

Phyllis Schlafly Center
7800 Bonhomme Avenue
Clayton, Missouri 63105
(314)721-1213

--------- Forwarded message ---------
From: "Ed Martin"
THE PHYLLIS SCHLAFLY REPORT
Ending DACA Restores the Rule of Law
by John and Andy Schlafly
September 5, 2017

President Trump has delivered again on a campaign promise, by ending the unlawful pandering to illegal aliens. The Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, known as DACA for short, was an illegal executive order by President Obama that prevented the deportation of adults who are unlawfully in our country.

Most of the beneficiaries of DACA are not children at all, but are young, able-bodied adults who are taking jobs and other benefits away from American citizens. Many states, which are being bankrupted by the burdens placed on their budgets by these illegal aliens, were planning to bring litigation to block DACA from remaining in effect.

President Trump’s plan to phase out DACA, which granted amnesty for illegal aliens who claim they were brought to our country as children, is an artful way of fulfilling two promises he made as a candidate. It restores the rule of law to part of our immigration law that had been undermined by President Obama’s executive actions, while also extending appropriate compassion to the 300,000 people who signed up in good faith for temporary legal status.

No new applications will be accepted without further action by Congress, but existing applications will continue to be processed, and DACA privileges will be honored until they expire. The government will continue issuing DACA renewals for another six months, which gives Congress plenty of time to consider a permanent law.

Trump’s decision to pass the responsibility to Congress, where it belongs, is the best part, contrary to the famous statement by his predecessor Harry Truman that “the buck stops here” in the Oval Office. The Constitution gives Congress the power to make our immigration policy, so any change in the law must start there.

By rolling out the new policy in this way, Trump has not revoked anyone’s legal status, nor is anyone in danger of being “rounded up” for deportation. DACA recipients still have the same rights they had before, no more and no less.

DACA was never supposed to be permanent. When President Obama unilaterally instituted the program in 2012 without Congressional approval, he promised recipients temporary protection for two years at a time — and President Trump is honoring that pledge.

Remember, all DACA recipients are illegal aliens — citizens of another country who came here illegally, even if they were brought here as children. Many of them actually came here on their own as teenagers, and many of the children were “brought” by smugglers or traffickers.

Among those who preemptively denounced Trump’s announcement were Apple and Microsoft, both of which said they have DACA recipients on their payrolls. The companies didn’t say how much the “Dreamers” were being paid or why no U.S. citizens or legal residents could be found to do those jobs.
Apple and Microsoft happen to be the biggest abusers of the system that allows U.S. technology corporations to avoid federal tax on earnings parked in overseas accounts. Apple’s untaxed cash hoard has reached an astounding $246 billion, while Microsoft is in second place with $131 billion overseas.

A group of CEOs signed a joint letter claiming that ending DACA would hurt the economy, but Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin is not buying it, saying, “There’s a lot of people that left the workforce, and our objective is to bring them back into the workforce.” Mnuchin came from the Wall Street firm of Goldman Sachs, but he obviously gets the Trump doctrine to put Americans first.

In the furor over what to do about so-called Dreamers (illegal aliens who entered the United States as children), it’s important to remember that DACA was never lawfully instituted by President Obama in the first place. DACA’s companion program, known as DAPA, was thrown out by the federal courts last year, and DACA was likely to suffer the same fate.

Legislation to grant legal status to Dreamers was introduced in Congress as far back as 2001 and was rejected many times since then, most recently in 2010 when Democrats controlled both Houses. In addition to defeating those stand-alone bills, public opposition killed “comprehensive immigration reform” in 2006, 2007, and 2013.

Before creating DACA in 2012, President Obama often said that he had no authority to grant legal status to Dreamers, and he also said that doing so would be both unwise and unfair. After changing his mind in an election year, he described DACA as “a temporary stopgap measure.”

House Speaker Paul Ryan and other Republicans now say they want DACA to continue, but many Democrats would go much further if they had the chance. A new Dream Act could extend legal status and provide benefits to millions of currently illegal residents, not just the 800,000 who signed up so far.

On at least 22 occasions, President Obama himself admitted that he lacked the authority as president to implement a DACA-like program. Then, under pressure from the Left, President Obama imposed one anyway.

By ending that unlawful action by Obama, President Trump properly restored the role of Congress over our immigration system. Congressmen are elected every two years in the House, and if they will hear from their voters if they try to continue a program that prefers illegal aliens over American citizens.
From: Cutrona, Danielle (OAG)
Sent: Tuesday, September 5, 2017 9:23 PM
To: Hybart, Camden (JMD)
Cc: Hunt, Jody (OAG); Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)
Subject: Trump says he will revisit DACA decision if lawmakers don’t act | TheHill

https://www.google.com/amp/thehill.com/homenews/administration/349351-trump-says-he-will-revisit-daca-decision-if-lawmakers-dont-act%3famp

Sent from my iPhone
O'Malley, Devin (OPA)

From: O'Malley, Devin (OPA)
Sent: Wednesday, September 6, 2017 9:05 AM
To: Cutrona, Danielle (OAG)
Subject: Re: Politico: Graham: Jeff Sessions 'is wrong' on Dreamers taking jobs from Americans

This is what we sent to Glenn Kessler at WaPo:

On background (as DOJ official):

Re: Q1:

Please see this WaPo story (June 13, 2014) by David Nakamura titled, "Influx of minors across Texas border driven by belief that they will be allowed to stay in the US."
Here is relevant UAC arrival data:
- FY2014
Here are President Obama's remarks on July 1, 2010 (two years before DACA), where he predicted a program like DACA could lead to a surge in illegal immigration (he failed to heed his own warning):
- "For example, there are those in the immigrants' rights community who have argued passionately that we should simply provide those who are [here] illegally with legal status, or at least ignore the laws on the books and put an end to deportation until we have better laws. And often this argument is framed in moral terms: Why should we punish people who are just trying to earn a living?;
- "I recognize the sense of compassion that drives this argument, but I believe such an indiscriminate approach would be both unwise and unfair. It would suggest to those thinking about coming here illegally that there will be no repercussions for such a decision. And this could lead to a surge in more illegal immigration. And it would also ignore the millions of people around the world who are waiting in line to come here legally."

Please see this WaPo story (June 12, 2014) by Nick Miroff and Joshua Partlow titled, "Central American migrants overwhelm Border Patrol station in Texas."
- "There are examples of detention conditions...that prompted President Obama to declare a 'humanitarian crisis' this week."

Re: Q2:
  - Steve Camarota, Director of Research at CIS, is an expert on this topic

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 6, 2017, at 9:02 AM, Cutrona, Danielle (OAG) <dcutrona@imd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

Can you send me all the data you pulled yesterday?
Ian suggested I check with you on the below.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "O'Malley, Devin (OPA)" <domalley@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Date: September 6, 2017 at 8:40:40 AM EDT
To: "Prior, Ian (OPA)" <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: FW: Politico: Graham: Jeff Sessions 'is wrong' on Dreamers taking jobs from Americans

(b) (5)

[Redacted]

but wanted to get your thoughts.

Devin M. O'Malley
Department of Justice
Office of Public Affairs
Office: (202) 353-8763
Cell: (b) (6)

Graham: Jeff Sessions 'is wrong' on Dreamers taking jobs from Americans
Politico
Louis Nelson
September 6, 2017 – 8:17 AM

Attorney General Jeff Sessions' assertion Tuesday that so-called Dreamers have taken jobs away from American citizens is "wrong," Sen. Lindsey Graham declared Wednesday morning, pushing back against his former Senate colleague and calling for compassion from Congress.

"Jeff Sessions is wrong. These kids are not taking jobs from American citizens, they’re part of our country," Graham (R-S.C.) told NBC’s "Today" show, rebuking Sessions' assertion from the previous day. "They’re fully employed for the most part, they’re in school, they will add great value. The president is right to want to have a heart for these kids."
The attorney general's comment about Dreamers, undocumented immigrants who were brought to the U.S. as children, came during his announcement that the Trump administration will rescind DACA, a program that offers work permits to Dreamers and protects them from deportation. Sessions, known as a hawk on immigration issues during his Senate tenure, blamed the program for hurting American job-seekers and for creating a "humanitarian crisis" on the U.S.-Mexico border.

President Donald Trump, though, has adopted a warmer attitude towards Dreamers, pledging to treat them compassionately both before and after his announcement rescinding DACA. The president's decision keeps the program in place for six months, creating a window for Congress to act on legislation to more permanently protect Dreamers. Similar legislation, dubbed the DREAM Act, failed to pass Congress during former President Barack Obama's administration.

Should Congress fail, Trump wrote on Twitter Tuesday night that he would "revisit this issue."

Graham, in his "Today" show interview, said Congress should create not just a path to legal status but also offer U.S. citizenship to Dreamers. But he also said Trump was right to rescind DACA because the program was on track to be ruled unconstitutional.

"The compassionate thing to do is to give these kids legal status, let them become citizens, they are all non-felons, they have no other country to go to," Graham said. "They came here as young children, they've lived their life in America and they would add great value to our country. That's the right thing to do regarding the kids."

The South Carolina senator predicted that legislation to protect Dreamers could make its way through Congress packaged alongside funding for border security, money that would help Trump make good on a campaign promise. But Graham also said that money for a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border, a specific campaign pledge of the president's, need not be part of an immigration compromise, in part because it would not be effective.

"I think there is a congressional deal to be made for border security, that would not include a 2,200 mile wall, and the DREAM Act," Graham said. "Because nobody — I've been to the border — nobody believes a 2,200 mile wall is the way to secure a border."

Devin M. O'Malley
Also, FYSA, here’s what I’ve pulled together so far on this:

(b) (5)

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From: Hudson, Andrew (OLP)
Sent: Wednesday, September 6, 2017 9:23 AM
To: Cutrona, Danielle (OAG) <dcutrQna@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Crowell, James (ODAG) <jcrowell@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG) <zterwilliger@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov>; O'Malley, Devin (OPA) <domalley@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: APPROVAL: DACA connection to the border surge

To respond to “fact checks” and to general requests for comment about whether DACA contributed to the border surge in 2014, we’re asking approval for the following quote:

(b) (5)
Crowell, James (ODAG)

From: Crowell, James (ODAG)
Sent: Wednesday, September 6, 2017 9:55 AM
To: Hudson, Andrew (OLP); Cutrona, Danielle (OAG); Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG)
Cc: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA); Prior, Ian (OPA); O'Malley, Devin (OPA)
Subject: RE: APPROVAL: DACA connection to the border surge

Fine by ODAG

From: Hudson, Andrew (OLP)
Sent: Wednesday, September 6, 2017 9:26 AM
To: Cutrona, Danielle (OAG) <dcutrona@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Crowell, James (ODAG) <jcrowell@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG) <zterwilliger@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Prior, Ian (OPA) <iprior@jmd.usdoj.gov>; O'Malley, Devin (OPA) <domalley@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: RE: APPROVAL: DACA connection to the border surge

Yes. Also, to clarify, we're only asking for approval on the first quote—the background references are for your benefit (and for background materials).

From: Cutrona, Danielle (OAG)
Sent: Wednesday, September 6, 2017 9:25 AM
To: Hudson, Andrew (OLP) <ahudson@imd.usdoj.gov>; Crowell, James (ODAG) <jcrowell@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG) <zterwilliger@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <siflores@imd.usdoj.gov>; Prior, Ian (OPA) <iprior@imd.usdoj.gov>; O'Malley, Devin (OPA) <domalley@imd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: RE: APPROVAL: DACA connection to the border surge
Roger that, standing by. SB

From: Bryant, Errical (OAG)
Sent: Wednesday, September 6, 2017 3:27 PM
To: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)
Cc: Cutrona, Danielle (OAG) <dcutrona@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: RE: Phone Call: Rep. John Duncan

Standby.

From: Bryant, Errical (OAG)
Sent: Wednesday, September 6, 2017 3:25 PM
To: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)
Cc: Cutrona, Danielle (OAG) <danielle.cutrona@usdoj.gov>
Subject: FW: Phone Call: Rep. John Duncan

Hello Stephen,
After discussing this with Danielle,
Let me know if that works for you.
Thanks
Errical

From: Johnson, Allen [mailto:Allen.Johnson@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, September 6, 2017 3:16 PM
To: Bryant, Errical (OAG) <ebryant@imd.usdoi.gov>; Schedule, AG84 (OAG) <AG84Schedule@imd.usdoi.gov>
Cc: Lambert, Denise <(b) (6)>
Subject: RE: Phone Call: Rep. John Duncan

Hello,
I apologize for the delay, as I had to seek clarity from Rep. Duncan. The Congressman would just like to take a moment to thank the Attorney General for such a great statement on DACA.

Best,
Allen Johnson
From: Bryant, Errical (OAG) [mailto:Errical.Bryant@usdoj.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, September 06, 2017 2:22 PM
To: Schedule, AG84 (OAG); Johnson, Allen
Subject: RE: Phone Call: Rep. John Duncan
Importance: High

Following up.

From: Schedule, AG84 (OAG)
Sent: Wednesday, September 6, 2017 10:58 AM
To: 'Allen.Johnson@mail.house.gov'
Subject: Phone Call: Rep. John Duncan

Good morning All,

Thanks for reaching out regarding your request to talk to AG Sessions. We would be happy to check his availability. Please provide a topic of discussion for your call.

All the best,

AG Scheduling Office
Cutrona, Danielle (OAG)

From: Cutrona, Danielle (OAG)
Sent: Wednesday, September 13, 2017 9:54 AM
To: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)
Subject: RE: DOJ Witness-October 3

Please call now if you can.

From: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA)
Sent: Wednesday, September 13, 2017 9:39 AM
To: Escalona, Prim F. (OLA) <pfescalona@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Cc: Johnson, Joanne E. (OLA) <jojohnson@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Pickell, Lindsay A. (OLA) <lapickell@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Mizelle, Chad (ODAG) <cmizelle@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Cutrona, Danielle (OAG) <dcutrona@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Re: DOJ Witness-October 3
Sensitivity: Confidential

Correct. Danielle I have some intel on this to discuss when time allows. SB

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 13, 2017, at 9:35 AM, Escalona, Prim F. (OLA) <pfescalona@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

I believe that we were aware that this request was coming. Copying Danielle for SA. We will work on a witness.

Thanks!

From: Johnson, Joanne E. (OLA)
Sent: Wednesday, September 13, 2017 9:10 AM
To: Boyd, Stephen E. (OLA) <pfescalona@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Escalona, Prim F. (OLA) <pfescalona@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Pickell, Lindsay A. (OLA) <lapickell@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Mizelle, Chad (ODAG) <cmizelle@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: Fwd: DOJ Witness-October 3
Sensitivity: Confidential

FYI: SJC is having a hearing on DACA on October 3, 2017, and would like DOJ to appear as a witness. See below. I just received word of this and have not yet gotten back to staffer.

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Pings, Anne (OLA)" <apings@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Date: September 13, 2017 at 8:58:33 AM EDT
To: "Watts, Brad (Judiciary-Rep)"
Cc: "Pickell, Lindsay A. (OLA)" <lapickell@jmd.usdoj.gov>, "Johnson, Joanne E. (OLA)" <jojohnson@jmd.usdoj.gov>
Subject: RE: DOJ Witness-October 3

Adding another colleague, Joanne, who may be able to get a head start while...
Lindsay and I actually are old Sessions alums together! Lindsay, SJC is requesting an appropriate witness from DOJ to talk about the decision to rescind DACA. Hearing is October 3rd. Let's connect via phone.

BJW

Hi Brad -
Connecting you with my colleague, Lindsay, who handles immigration issues.

Best regards,
Anne

On Sep 13, 2017, at 8:48 AM, Watts, Brad (Judiciary-Rep) wrote:

Anne:

Hope this email finds you well. Do you have time to chat today about DOJ sending a witness to a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing on DACA on October 3rd?

Thanks,

Brad

Bradley J. Watts
Majority Counsel
Senator Charles E. Grassley
Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee
325 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

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