**Support the BRIDGE Act for Dreamers**

**Activist Happy Hour Call-In Script**

First, check if any Member of Congress who represents you is already a co-sponsor of the bill here: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/128/cosponsors> **SENATE**

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/496/cosponsors> **HOUSE**

If a Member of Congress who represents you **is** already a co-sponsor of the bill:

* "Hi, my name is \_\_\_ and I’m a constituent of Senator/Representative \_\_\_\_. I am calling to thank [her/him] for [his/her] support to the BRIDGE Act introduced by Senator Lindsey Graham and co-sponsored by Senator Dick Durbin."
* “As you know, the BRIDGE Act is bipartisan legislation whose intent is to allow people who are eligible for or who have received work authorization and temporary relief from deportation through Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (or DACA) to continue living in the U.S. with permission from the federal government. Senator/Representative \_\_\_\_’s support for the BRIDGE Act is an important step towards recognizing the positive impact that providing work authorization and protection from deportation has had on the lives of people with DACA, as well as on the broader society and economy.
* The data illustrate that DACA recipients are making significant contributions to the economy by buying cars and first homes, which translate into more revenue for states and localities in the form of sales and property taxes. Some are even using their entrepreneurial talents to help create new jobs and further spur economic growth by starting their own businesses.
* The positive wage effect of DACA is also significant. The data show that DACA increased recipients’ average hourly wages by 42 percent. Given that higher wages translate into higher tax revenue and economic growth, these findings reinforce the fact that DACA benefits all Americans.
* Senator/Representative \_\_\_\_’s sustained and active support of the BRIDGE Act would allow DACA recipients the opportunity to continue contributing to our society and economy. This is greatly needed given the unprecedented socioeconomic challenges facing our country today and anticipated in the future.
* "I really appreciate Senator/Representative \_\_\_\_’s continued support of the BRIDGE Act to bar removal of individuals who dream and grow our economy."

If a Member of Congress who represents you **is not** already a co-sponsor of the bill:

* "Hi, my name is \_\_\_ and I am a constituent of [Senator/Representative] \_\_\_\_. I am calling to ask [her/him] to support the BRIDGE Act first introduced by Senator Lindsey Graham and co-sponsored by Senator Dick Durbin.”
* “As you know, the BRIDGE Act is bipartisan legislation whose intent is to allow people who are eligible for or who have received work authorization and temporary relief from deportation through Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (or DACA) to continue living in the U.S. with permission from the federal government. Rather than creating a strain on our economy, DACA recipients are a vital force for economic growth in our country in several ways.
* Many of the people who have benefited from DACA are pursuing educational opportunities that were previously unavailable to them. The majors, specializations, and training that DACA recipients are pursuing include early childhood education, biochemistry, computer science, neuroscience, nursing, and social work, among many others. These fields are crucial areas of the US economy for which consistent growth in the skilled labor force is needed in the coming decades.
* The data also illustrate that DACA recipients are making significant contributions to the economy by buying cars and first homes, which translate into more revenue for states and localities in the form of sales and property taxes. Some are even using their entrepreneurial talents to help create new jobs and further spur economic growth by starting their own businesses.
* The positive wage effect of DACA is also significant. The data show that DACA increased recipients’ average hourly wages by 42 percent. Given that higher wages translate into higher tax revenue and economic growth, these findings reinforce the fact that DACA benefits all Americans.
* "I want Senator/Representative \_\_\_ to please support the BRIDGE Act to bar removal of individuals who dream and grow our economy. The BRIDGE Act will ensure that DACA recipients can continue contributing to our society and economy. This is greatly needed given the unprecedented socioeconomic challenges facing our country today and anticipated in the future.

My views are not unique: According to research released in October 2016 from the Pew Research Center, 95% of Clinton and 60% of Trump supporters say there should be a way for undocumented immigrants currently in the country to stay here legally, if certain requirements are met.

* I hope Senator/Representative \_\_\_ will have the moral courage to take a step in the right direction for our nation’s economy and advocate for the necessary actions to approve this bipartisan bill. Thank you very much.”

If you’d like to learn more about this topic before or after your call, these links are a great place to start!

1. **The BRIDGE Act FAQs** <https://www.nilc.org/issues/daca/faq-bridge-act/>
2. **Four Reasons Conservatives Should Support the BRIDGE Act** <http://bruceashford.net/2017/conservatives-here-are-4-reasons-you-should-support-the-bridge-act/>
3. **Pew Research Center finding of bipartisan support for pathway for undocumented immigrants to legally stay in the US** <http://www.people-press.org/2016/10/27/6-views-of-domestic-issues-race-immigration-health-care-abortion-supreme-court/>
4. **New Study of DACA Beneficiaries Shows Positive Economic and Educational Outcomes** <https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/immigration/news/2016/10/18/146290/new-study-of-daca-beneficiaries-shows-positive-economic-and-educational-outcomes/>
5. **Summary of the Bill in the Senate** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/128>
6. **Summary of the Bill in the House** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/496>