

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK**

MARTIN JONATHAN BATALLA VIDAL  
et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

ELAINE C. DUKE, Acting Secretary,  
Department of Homeland Security, et al.

Defendants.

Case No. 16-CV-4756 (NGG) (JO)

STATE OF NEW YORK et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

DONALD TRUMP, President of the United  
States, et al.,

Defendants.

Case No. 17-CV-5228 (NGG) (JO)

**AMICUS BRIEF OF 114 COMPANIES IN SUPPORT OF  
PLAINTIFFS' MOTIONS FOR PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION**

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## **INTEREST OF *AMICI CURIAE***

*Amici* are 114 U.S. companies and associations that collectively contribute trillions of dollars in annual revenue to the American economy. Many *amici* employ Dreamers—the young people who, under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, are able to live and work in the country that has been their home for most of their young lives. In addition, *amici*'s customers and end users are Dreamers; and *amici*'s businesses benefit from Dreamers' contributions to the overall economy through their tax payments, spending, and investments. Accordingly, *amici* have a strong interest in Dreamers' continued ability to work and participate in our country's economy and in society generally. A list of the *amici* is set forth in Appendix A.

## **INTRODUCTION**

The intangible benefits of the DACA program are undeniable and substantial: nearly 800,000 young people (Dreamers) who “were brought to this country as children and know only this country as home” may for the first time live in America and participate fully in all aspects of our society without the constant and crippling fear of deportation. Memorandum from Janet Napolitano to David V. Aguilar Regarding Exercising Prosecutorial Discretion with Respect to Individuals Who Came to the United States as Children (June 15, 2012). DACA is a concrete and essential example of America fulfilling its centuries-old promise to welcome people from around the world seeking a better and a freer life. And no group is more deserving of that welcome than the Dreamers.

In addition to these invaluable intangible benefits, DACA has produced—and is continuing to produce—important benefits for America's companies and for our economy as a whole. Most notably, DACA permits Dreamers to obtain work authorization, thereby enabling them to obtain jobs. Employment of Dreamers expands work opportunities for everyone, because employment is not a zero-sum game. Dreamers are filling vacancies at companies that



cannot find enough workers to fill their needs. And Dreamers' wages lead to higher tax revenues and expansion of our national GDP—producing new jobs for all Americans.

DACA's rescission will inflict serious harm on U.S. companies, all workers, and the American economy as a whole. Indeed, our national GDP will lose \$460.3 billion, and Social Security and Medicare tax contributions will be reduced by \$24.6 billion, over the next decade. But those dire consequence should never come to fruition because DACA's rescission cannot be permitted stand. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) rescinded DACA based entirely on its legal conclusion that it exceeds the agency's statutory authority. That legal conclusion is wrong: DACA closely resembles deferred action programs adopted in the past, and complies fully with the applicable statute.

## **ARGUMENT**

### **I. DACA'S RESCISSION WILL INFLICT SIGNIFICANT HARM ON U.S. COMPANIES AND THE ENTIRE ECONOMY.**

Since the nation's founding, immigrants have been an integral part of the fabric of our country, enhancing the lives and prosperity of all Americans. Immigrants' contributions to the U.S. economy are well-recognized: For example, the businesses they own generate over \$775 billion in revenue and employ one out of every 10 workers.<sup>1</sup>

DACA enabled Dreamers—immigrants who were brought to the U.S. as children—to come out of the shadows, participate in the economy, and contribute to U.S. companies, which benefits all of us. Rescinding DACA harms not only individual Dreamers and their families, friends, and co-workers; but also the many U.S. businesses that count on them to help fuel continued innovation and economic growth.

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<sup>1</sup> P'ship for a New Am. Economy, *Open for Business: How Immigrants Are Driving Business Creation in the United States* 12, 14 (Aug. 2012), <https://goo.gl/3mFkVz>.

**A. Dreamers Contribute Directly To Our Nation’s Economic Growth.**

In the five years since DACA was implemented, Dreamers have become essential contributors to American companies and the American economy. Prior to the DACA program, these young people—who have obtained at least a high school degree and, in many cases have finished college and obtained graduate degrees—would have been unable to obtain work authorization, and therefore unable to put their education and skills to use. DACA changed that, and as a result over 91 percent of the almost 800,000 Dreamers are employed and earn wages commensurate with their skill levels.<sup>2</sup> Permitting Dreamers to stay and work in the country in which they grew up not only benefits those individuals, but also benefits American companies and the American economy as a whole.

*First*, Dreamers directly contribute to the success of numerous U.S. companies. At least 72 percent of the top 25 Fortune 500 companies employ Dreamers—including IBM, Walmart, Apple, General Motors, Amazon, JPMorgan Chase, Home Depot, Wells Fargo, among others. Those companies alone generate almost \$3 trillion in annual revenue.<sup>3</sup>

Many Dreamers are entrepreneurs who have created their own businesses: According to one survey, five percent of Dreamers started their own businesses after receiving DACA status. Among those respondents 25 years and older, the figure is eight percent—well above the 3.1

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<sup>2</sup> Tom K. Wong et al., *Results from 2017 National DACA Study* 3-4 (“Wong 2017 Results”), <https://goo.gl/eyZ3VT>.

<sup>3</sup> *Id.*

percent for all Americans.<sup>4</sup> These businesses create new jobs and provide goods and services that expand the economy.<sup>5</sup>

*Second*, Dreamers pay taxes to federal, state, and local governments.<sup>6</sup> The Cato Institute estimated that over 10 years, DACA recipients will increase tax revenues by \$60 billion.<sup>7</sup>

*Third*, Dreamers have used their earnings—and the increased stability and security resulting from their DACA status—to make purchases and investments that grow our nation’s economy. Nearly two-thirds of Dreamers reported purchasing their first car in 2017, and 16 percent reported purchasing a first home.<sup>8</sup> These and other types of personal consumption expenditures are important drivers of the economy: they “account[] for the largest share of GDP [and] are the main generator of employment in the economy.”<sup>9</sup>

**B. Dreamers Help Grow The Economy By Filling Jobs For Which There Otherwise Would Not Be A Sufficient Supply Of Workers.**

Studies have consistently found that immigrants do not displace U.S.-born workers. They instead help grow the economy and create more opportunities for U.S.-born workers by

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<sup>4</sup> Wong 2017 Results, *supra* n.2, at 3; Tom K. Wong et al., *DACA Recipients’ Economic and Educational Gains Continue to Grow*, Ctr. for Am. Progress, Aug. 28, 2017, <https://goo.gl/dYJV1s>.

<sup>5</sup> See Julia Boorstin, *Illegal Entrepreneurs: Maria Has No U.S. Visa, and Jose’s Expires Soon. Yet They Own a Profitable California Factory, Pay Taxes, and Create Jobs*, CNNMoney, July 1, 2005, <https://goo.gl/jq2Y1C>.

<sup>6</sup> See Silva Mathema, *Assessing the Economic Impacts of Granting Deferred Action Through DACA and DAPA*, Ctr. for Am. Progress, Apr. 2, 2015, <https://goo.gl/wxxek1>.

<sup>7</sup> Ike Brannon & Logan Albright, *The Economic and Fiscal Impact of Repealing DACA*, Cato Institute, Jan. 18, 2017, <https://goo.gl/jFXw4g>.

<sup>8</sup> Wong 2017 Results, *supra* n.2, at 3.

<sup>9</sup> Mitra Toossi, *Consumer Spending: An Engine for U.S. Job Growth*, Monthly Labor Review 12 (Nov. 2002), <https://goo.gl/iyTkdR>.

filling positions that otherwise would remain vacant because of a shortage of qualified workers.<sup>10</sup>

**1. Permitting Dreamers to participate in the workforce expands, rather than reduces, the number of jobs.**

“[O]ne of the best-known fallacies in economics” is the “lump of labour fallacy.”<sup>11</sup> Economists from across the policy and political spectrum have discredited the notion that “there is a fixed amount of work to be done—a lump of labour”—such that an increase in the number of workers reduces the number of available jobs.<sup>12</sup> Rather, the clear reality is that jobs beget more jobs. “[W]hen people work for a living they earn money. They spend that money on goods and services that are produced by other people, young and old, male and female.”<sup>13</sup> The greater demand for goods and services creates new jobs.

The facts are indisputable. “From 1970 to 2017, the U.S. labor force doubled. Rather than ending up with a 50 percent unemployment rate, U.S. employment doubled.”<sup>14</sup> Another study showed that countries with high employment levels of older workers also had high employment levels of young workers; in other words, high employment levels in one group

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<sup>10</sup> See Michael Greenstone & Adam Looney, *What Immigration Means for U.S. Employment and Wages* 1-2, The Hamilton Project (2012), <https://goo.gl/bvC7AE>; Kenneth Megan, *Immigration and the Labor Force*, Bipartisan Policy Ctr., Aug. 25, 2015, <https://goo.gl/8p3SP8>; Michael A. Clemens & Lant Pritchett, *Temporary Work Visas: A Four-Way Win for the Middle Class, Low-Skill Workers, Border Security, and Migrants* 4, Ctr. for Global Dev. Brief, Apr. 2013, <https://goo.gl/p9NLuc>.

<sup>11</sup> Economics A-Z Terms Beginning With L, *The Economist*, <https://goo.gl/BvRwKU>.

<sup>12</sup> *Id.*; see also Paul Krugman, Opinion, *Lumps of Labor*, *N.Y. Times*, Oct. 7, 2003, <https://goo.gl/GyYTG5>.

<sup>13</sup> Buttonwood, *Keep on Trucking*, *The Economist*, Feb. 11, 2012, <https://goo.gl/x8vqaL>; see also Megan, *supra* n.10 (“[A] breadth of research indicates that immigration can be complementary to native born employment, as it spurs demand for goods and services”); Giovanni Peri, *The Effect of Immigrants on U.S. Employment and Productivity*, Fed. Reserve Bank of San Francisco Economic Letter, Aug. 30, 2010, <https://goo.gl/jK17fc>.

<sup>14</sup> David Bier, *Five Myths About DACA*, *Cato Inst.*, Sept. 7, 2017, <https://goo.gl/y1e8gb>.

benefited the other group, rather than depriving the other of employment opportunities.<sup>15</sup> And yet other studies have shown that increased immigration levels in the U.S. in the past have had largely *positive* impacts on the employment levels and income of U.S.-born workers.<sup>16</sup>

These findings hold true today. The unemployment rate has been cut almost in half since 2012, when DACA was created.<sup>17</sup> The number of total job openings has increased.<sup>18</sup> And Dreamers are spending money and starting businesses—which help grow the economy and create more jobs.

## **2. Dreamers fill critical labor shortages.**

The jobs being filled by Dreamers post-DACA are largely jobs for which there is a shortage of qualified workers—not the jobs that are or could be filled by U.S.-born workers. In a recent survey of U.S. employers, 46 percent of respondents reported difficulty filling jobs—particularly in skilled labor positions, such as teachers, accounting and finance staff, nurses, and engineers.<sup>19</sup> Almost a quarter of employers reported a lack of available applicants; another 34 percent cited a shortage of applicants with necessary skills.<sup>20</sup> In 2012, the President’s Council of Advisors on Science and Technology warned that within ten years, the U.S. could face a shortfall

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<sup>15</sup> Buttonwood, *supra* n.13.

<sup>16</sup> See Jacqueline Varas, *How Immigration Helps U.S. Workers and the Economy*, American Action Forum, Mar. 20, 2017, <https://goo.gl/ovHQEh>.

<sup>17</sup> See Nat’l Conference of State Legislatures, National Employment Monthly Update, <https://goo.gl/wZBJh8> (last accessed Oct. 31, 2017).

<sup>18</sup> U.S. Dep’t of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey, <https://goo.gl/g4n9Ag> (last accessed Oct. 31, 2017).

<sup>19</sup> See ManpowerGroup, *2016/2017 Talent Shortage Survey: The United States Results* (“ManpowerGroup 2016/2017”), <https://goo.gl/rJTKs6>; see also Rachel Unruh & Amanda Bergson-Shilcock, Nat’l Skills Coalition, *Missing in Action* 3-4 (2015), <https://goo.gl/gokfJW> (“In 2012, middle-skill jobs accounted for 54 percent of the U.S. labor market, but only 44 percent of the country’s workers were trained to the middle-skill level.”).

<sup>20</sup> ManpowerGroup 2016/2017, *supra* n.19.

of nearly one million professionals in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields.<sup>21</sup> Even putting aside the skills mismatch, it is unlikely that there are enough available workers to fill the openings: The U.S. unemployment rate is currently quite low, and the number of job openings is high.<sup>22</sup>

Dreamers help fill this gap. They all have a high school degree or equivalent—and a large percentage of Dreamers are pursuing or have received college or post-college degrees and therefore qualify for highly-skilled jobs.<sup>23</sup> In 2016, almost a quarter of Dreamers were employed in the educational or health services industry.<sup>24</sup> Many others work in technology, science, and finance,<sup>25</sup> and more still are majoring in STEM fields.<sup>26</sup> *Amici's* experiences confirm this: For example, Microsoft employs 27 Dreamers as “software engineers with top technical skills; finance professionals driving [its] business ambitions forward; and retail and sales associates connecting customers to [its] technologies.”<sup>27</sup> IBM has identified at least 31 Dreamers within the company who work in areas such as software development and client support.<sup>28</sup> One IBM

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<sup>21</sup> President’s Council of Advisors on Science and Technology, *Report to the President: Engage to Excel: Producing One Million Additional College Graduates with Degrees in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics* 1 (Feb. 2012), <https://goo.gl/v2YRVD>.

<sup>22</sup> See U.S. Dep’t of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Economic News Release Table A-14 (Oct. 6, 2017), <https://goo.gl/o8t39g>; U.S. Dep’t of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey Highlights August 2017 charts 1 & 2 (Oct. 11, 2017), <https://goo.gl/H28XkL>.

<sup>23</sup> Wong 2017 Results, *supra* n.2, at 7-8.

<sup>24</sup> Ctr. for Am. Progress, *Results of Tom K. Wong, United We Dream, National Immigration Law Center, and Center for American Progress National Survey* 4 (2016), <https://goo.gl/pe2i17>.

<sup>25</sup> *Id.*

<sup>26</sup> The UndocuScholars Project, *In the Shadows of the Ivory Tower: Undocumented Undergraduates and the Liminal State of Immigration Reform* 8 (2015), <https://goo.gl/sEpx1K>.

<sup>27</sup> Brad Smith, President and Chief Legal Officer, Microsoft, *DREAMers Make our Country and Communities Stronger*, Aug. 31, 2017, <https://goo.gl/kJYDT3>.

<sup>28</sup> See Tony Romm, *IBM CEO Ginni Rometty Is in D.C. Urging Congress to Save DACA*, Recode.net, Sept. 19, 2017, <https://goo.gl/NQeJUC>; *My American Dream, Minus the Paperwork*,

Dreamer provided critical remote technical support to ensure continuity of IBM's Cloud services when Hurricane Harvey flooded Houston. Lyft employs at least one Dreamer as a software engineer, who serves as one of the tech leads of the team driving critical data projects.

Even Dreamers with lesser-skilled jobs are filling positions for which there is an insufficient labor supply. "Among less-educated workers, those born in the United States tend to have jobs in manufacturing or mining, while immigrants tend to have jobs in personal services and agriculture."<sup>29</sup> The latter industries in particular "face[] a critical shortage of workers every year, as citizens are largely unwilling to engage in these physically demanding activities"<sup>30</sup>—even when companies increase wages the maximum amount financially feasible.<sup>31</sup>

In sum, Dreamers are filling jobs that otherwise would remain vacant and are increasing demand for goods and services, which helps to grow the entire economy.

**C. Rescinding DACA Will Inflict Enormous Harm On Individuals, Companies, And The Economy.**

All of the above benefits—and more—will be lost if DACA's rescission is permitted to stand. Over the next decade, our country's GDP will lose \$460.3 billion; and Social Security and Medicare tax receipts will drop \$24.6 billion.<sup>32</sup>

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THINKPolicy Blog, Oct. 3, 2017, <https://goo.gl/876JDm>; *I Felt Like a Normal American Kid . . . Then Everything Changed*, THINKPolicy Blog, Oct. 9, 2017, <https://goo.gl/oV9P7h>.

<sup>29</sup> Peri, *supra* n.13.

<sup>30</sup> Am. Farm Bureau Federation, *Agricultural Labor – Immigration Reform* (Oct. 2016), <https://goo.gl/WUAz3e>; *see also* Clemens & Pritchett, *supra* n.10, at 3, (predicting that increase in low-skill jobs in the care industry will be more than the total increase in the 25-54 labor force).

<sup>31</sup> *See, e.g.*, Natalie Kitroeff & Geoffrey Mohan, *Wages Rise on California Farms. Americans Still Don't Want the Job*, Los Angeles Times, Mar. 17, 2017, <https://goo.gl/r1cH9Z>; Octavio Blanco, *The Worker Shortage Facing America's Farmers*, CNN Money, Sept. 29, 2016, <https://goo.gl/ZF2Tdx>.

<sup>32</sup> *See* Nicole Prchal Svajlenka et al., *A New Threat to DACA Could Cost States Billions of Dollars*, Ctr. for Am. Progress, July 21, 2017, <https://goo.gl/7udtFu>; Jose Magana-Salgado,



This economic contraction results directly from Dreamers' loss of work authorization. The approximately 700,000 employed Dreamers would all lose their jobs over the next two years—an average of 1,400 people losing jobs every single business day.<sup>33</sup> In addition to the obvious harm to Dreamers themselves, the loss of so many workers will have severe repercussions for U.S. companies and workers.

The impending March 2018 deadline—and threat of job loss and being forced into a life in the shadows, unable to participate in society, and facing forced removal from the only country they have ever known—is already impacting Dreamers and, by extension, the companies for which they work. The fear for the future that is now a daily part of life for Dreamers and their families affects both physical and mental health.<sup>34</sup> That, in turn, negatively affects employee productivity and performance, illness and absenteeism, accidents, and turnover.<sup>35</sup>

Once Dreamers' work authorizations begin expiring in March 2018, companies will face an estimated \$6.3 billion in costs to replace Dreamers—if they can even find new employees to fill the empty positions.<sup>36</sup> Companies will forfeit the money they invested in training Dreamers,

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Immigrant Legal Resources Center, *Money on the Table: The Economic Cost of Ending DACA* 4, 6-7 (2016), <https://goo.gl/3ZwGVJ>; see also Brannon & Albright, *supra* n.8 (estimating cost of “immediately eliminating the DACA program and deporting its participants” to be \$283 billion reduction in economic growth and over \$60 billion reduction to tax revenues over 10 years).

<sup>33</sup> Ctr. for Am. Progress & FWD.us, *Study: The Impact of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Program* 3 (2017), <https://goo.gl/P3DgPz>.

<sup>34</sup> See Tiziana Rinaldi & Angilee Shah, *Immigration Limbo Is a 'Tug of Emotions.'* *It's Also a Mental Health Issue*, PRI's The World, Aug. 22, 2017, <https://goo.gl/WLXMZ4>; Sarah Elizabeth Richards, *How Fear of Deportation Puts Stress on Families*, The Atlantic, Mar. 22, 2017, <https://goo.gl/qDgeRf>.

<sup>35</sup> See World Health Org. & Int'l Labour Org., *Mental Health And Work: Impact, Issues and Good Practices* 1 (2000), <https://goo.gl/ecH1Ut>.

<sup>36</sup> See David Bier, *Ending DACA Will Impose Billions in Employer Compliance Costs*, Cato Institute, Sept. 1, 2017, <https://goo.gl/1FMidk>; see also Magana-Salgado, *supra* n.32, at 4, (estimating turnover costs due to DACA termination to be \$3.4 billion).



and will incur costs recruiting and training new employees, who will be less experienced and therefore less productive.<sup>37</sup> These costs are particularly burdensome for small businesses.

The numbers are relevant, but numbers alone do not come close to capturing Dreamers' contributions and the tremendous harm that will result from their loss. People are the heart of every business; and every company's goal is to create teams that work seamlessly together—teams in which colleagues support each other both within and outside the workplace. Ripping Dreamers out of their jobs hurts not only Dreamers, but other employees who lose friends and colleagues, and companies that lose trusted members of their teams.

History shows that forcing Dreamers out of the workforce and into the shadows will also reduce job growth and harm the U.S. economy. After Arizona passed the Legal Arizona Workers Act in 2007, which targeted the use of unauthorized workers, its population of undocumented workers dropped by 40 percent. Economic growth fell, reducing job opportunities: The state's total employment was 2.5 percent less than what it would have been without the laws, and its GDP was reduced by an average of 2 percent a year between 2008 and 2015.<sup>38</sup>

Similarly, in 1964, the U.S. expelled Mexican *braceros*, who were previously permitted to work temporarily in the U.S., mostly on farms. A recent study revealed that excluding the Mexican *braceros* “did not affect the wages or employment of U.S. farmworkers.”<sup>39</sup> Instead,

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<sup>37</sup> Heather Boushey & Sarah Jane Glynn, *There Are Significant Business Costs to Replacing Employees*, Ctr. for Am. Progress, Nov. 16, 2012, <https://goo.gl/ZSmRLq>.

<sup>38</sup> See Bob Davis, *The Thorny Economics of Illegal Immigration*, Wall St. J., Feb. 9, 2010, <https://goo.gl/j4dd7J>; see also Sarah Bohn et al., *Do E-Verify Mandates Improve Labor Market Outcomes of Low-Skilled Native and Legal Immigrant Workers?* 17-18, 21, 24-25 (2014), <https://goo.gl/7UihSE> (finding that employment rates of U.S.-born men—both Hispanic and non-Hispanic white men—dropped post-LAWA).

<sup>39</sup> Michael A. Clemens, *Does Kicking Out Mexicans Create Jobs?*, Politico Magazine, Feb. 15, 2017, <https://goo.gl/XwLj1x>.

farms responded by *eliminating* the jobs—often by moving production abroad or going out of business.<sup>40</sup>

Removing Dreamers from the workforce is likely to have the very same negative effect on U.S. employment levels as companies are unable to fill critical jobs. That effect will be exacerbated as Dreamers are forced to shutter businesses that employ other workers and other companies lose the income that has helped drive demand and production of goods and services provided by U.S.-born workers.<sup>41</sup>

And the harm will be much more far-reaching: Just as DACA sent a powerful message of inclusion, its rescission tells the immigrants who have been integral to the growth and development of our society and economy for decades that they are no longer welcome here. As a result, DACA’s rescission will reduce the future ability of U.S. companies to attract individuals from around the world to support America’s continued economic growth and prosperity.

## **II. THE DECISION TO RESCIND DACA IS INVALID, BECAUSE IT IS ARBITRARY AND CAPRICIOUS AND CONTRARY TO LAW.**

DHS rescinded DACA based entirely on its legal conclusion that DACA “was effectuated . . . without proper statutory authority” and therefore “was an unconstitutional exercise of authority by the Executive Branch.” Memorandum from Elaine C. Duke, Acting Secretary, Dep’t of Homeland Security, on Rescission of the June 15, 2012 Memorandum Entitled “Exercising Prosecutorial Discretion With Respect to Individuals Who Came to the United States as Children” (Sept. 5, 2017). DHS’s decision stands or falls on the correctness of that legal

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<sup>40</sup> *Id.*

<sup>41</sup> *Cf.* Ben Gitis & Jacqueline Varas, *The Labor and Output Declines From Removing All Undocumented Immigrants*, Am. Action Forum, May 5, 2016, <https://goo.gl/UAt3dJ> (concluding that removing undocumented immigrants from the workforce would cause private sector employment to decline by 4 to 6.8 million workers, would reduce real private sector output by \$381.5 to \$623.2 billion, and would have further negative economic impacts through the loss of consumption, investments, and entrepreneurship).

determination: If DHS got the law wrong, its action is not supported by a valid justification and therefore is arbitrary and capricious in violation of the APA. *See* 5 U.S.C. § 706(2)(A); *Safe Air For Everyone v. EPA*, 488 F.3d 1088, 1101 (9th Cir. 2007) (“Because [EPA’s flawed legal interpretation] is fundamental to EPA’s determination that [the State] did not contravene [the Clean Air Act], EPA’s outcome on those statutory interpretation questions is ‘arbitrary, capricious, or otherwise not in accordance with law’ for the purposes of our review.”).

DHS’s legal interpretation was plainly erroneous, and its decision to rescind DACA therefore cannot stand. DACA confers two related benefits: deferral of government action to remove the individual from the United States (known as “deferred action”) and eligibility for work authorization. Both elements have long been recognized in U.S. immigration law.

*First*, granting “deferred action” is a long-established practice engaged in by Administrations of both parties and expressly recognized by the Supreme Court. *See Reno v. American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (“AAADC”)*, 525 U.S. 471, 483-85 (1999) (describing “regular practice” of “deferred action”).<sup>42</sup> The decision to defer removal proceedings is an exercise of prosecutorial discretion that falls squarely within the Executive Branch’s constitutional authority to “take Care that the Laws be faithfully executed.” U.S. Const. art. II, § 3.

In the immigration context, moreover, Congress has codified that discretion. Until 1940, “the deportation statute unyieldingly demanded that an alien illegally in the United States be deported.” *Johns v. DOJ*, 653 F.2d 884, 890 n.12 (5th Cir. 1981). Now, however, the

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<sup>42</sup> *See also Arizona v. United States*, 567 U.S. 387, 396 (2012) (“A principal feature of the removal system is the broad discretion exercised by immigration officials.”); CHARLES GORDON ET AL., 6-72 IMMIGRATION LAW AND PROC. § 72.03 (Matthew Bender, rev. ed.); Mem. Op. for the Sec’y of Homeland Security and the Counsel to the President, 38 Op. Off. Legal Counsel 1, 13-18 (Nov. 19, 2014), <https://www.justice.gov/file/179206/download>.

immigration laws specifically charge the secretary of Homeland Security with “establishing national immigration enforcement policies and priorities,” 6 U.S.C. § 202(5), and to carry out the “administration and enforcement of th[e] INA] and all other laws relating to the immigration and naturalization of aliens,” 8 U.S.C. § 1103(a); *see also* H.R. Rep. No. 11-157, at 8 (2009) (“[R]ather than simply rounding up as many illegal immigrants as possible, which is sometimes achieved by targeting the easiest and least threatening among the undocumented population, DHS must ensure that the government’s huge investments in immigration enforcement are producing the maximum return in actually making our country safer.”).

Congress has on several occasions *expanded* deferred action to certain categories of individuals.<sup>43</sup> And it enacted 8 U.S.C. § 1252(g), which the Supreme Court explained was intended to preserve the INS’s exercise of discretion in granting deferred action while “giv[ing] some measure of protection to ‘no deferred action’ decisions.” *AAADC*, 525 U.S. at 484-85.

*Second*, conferring eligibility for work authorization has a similarly lengthy pedigree. A regulation promulgated in the 1980s provides that individuals who receive deferred action are eligible to apply for work authorization. *See* 8 C.F.R. § 274a.12(c)(14) (providing eligibility to apply for work authorization to “[a]n alien who has been granted deferred action”). Congress has legislated on the basis of this regulation, enacting a law prohibiting employers from hiring unauthorized aliens, but expressly excluding from that category individuals “authorized to be so employed by . . . the Attorney General.” 8 U.S.C. § 1324a(h)(3); *cf.* 49 U.S.C. § 30301 note

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<sup>43</sup> *See, e.g.*, 8 U.S.C. § 1154(a)(1)(D)(i)(II), (IV) (providing that certain aliens who self-petition for relief under the Violence Against Women Act of 1994, Pub. L. No. 103-322, Tit. V, 108 Stat. 1092, are eligible to request “deferred action”); USA PATRIOT Act, Pub. L. No. 107-56, § 423(b), 115 Stat. 272, 361 (2001) (providing that certain family members of lawful permanent residents killed on September 11, 2001, or of citizens killed in combat, are “eligible for deferred action”); National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2004, Pub. L. No. 108-136, § 1703(c)-(d), 117 Stat. 1392, 1694-1695 (2003) (same).

(providing that certain states may issue driver’s licenses to aliens with “approved deferred action status”).

In concluding that DACA was an unconstitutional exercise of authority, DHS claimed that DACA suffered from the defect identified by the Fifth Circuit in a case challenging a separate deferred action program, DAPA. But the plaintiffs in that earlier case did *not* challenge the authority of the Executive Branch to exercise its discretion to defer removal with respect to certain undocumented immigrants, even on a categorical basis. Instead, the dispute centered on a statement in the memorandum implementing DAPA that “for a specified period of time, an individual [covered by DAPA] is permitted to be lawfully present in the United States.” *See Texas v. United States*, 809 F.3d 134, 147-49, 166, 179-84 (5th Cir. 2015). The claim was that DHS lacked the authority to confer “lawful[] presen[ce]” and the Fifth Circuit agreed. The memorandum establishing DACA contains no such language, and the Fifth Circuit’s rationale is therefore inapplicable.

In short, ample constitutional and statutory authority exists for DACA. DHS’s rescission of DACA based on a contrary legal conclusion is accordingly unfounded and should be vacated.

### **CONCLUSION**

For the foregoing reasons, *amici* urge the Court to grant Plaintiffs’ motions for preliminary injunction.

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**APPENDIX A**

**LIST OF *AMICI CURIAE***

1. 6Sense Insights, Inc.
2. A Medium Corporation
3. Adobe Systems Incorporated
4. AdRoll, Inc.
5. Affirm, Inc.
6. Airbnb, Inc.
7. Alation, Inc.
8. Ampush LLC
9. Andela, Inc.
10. Appboy, Inc.
11. AppNexus Inc.
12. Asana, Inc.
13. Atlassian Corp. Plc
14. Azavea Inc.
15. Ben & Jerry's Homemade, Inc.
16. Bigtooth Ventures
17. Box, Inc.
18. Brightcove Inc.
19. BSA | The Software Alliance
20. CareZone Inc.
21. CartoDB Inc.

22. Casper Sleep Inc.
23. Castlight Health, Inc.
24. Cavium, Inc.
25. Chegg, Inc.
26. Chobani, LLC
27. Civis Analytics, Inc.
28. Citrix Systems, Inc.
29. ClassPass Inc.
30. Cloudera, Inc.
31. Cloudflare Inc.
32. Codecademy
33. Color Genomics, Inc.
34. The Copia Institute
35. Credit Karma, Inc.
36. DocuSign, Inc.
37. DoorDash, Inc.
38. Dropbox, Inc.
39. eBay Inc.
40. Edmodo, Inc.
41. Electronic Arts Inc.
42. EquityZen Inc.
43. Facebook, Inc.
44. General Assembly Space, Inc.



45. Glassdoor, Inc.
46. Google Inc.
47. Gusto
48. Greenhouse Software, Inc.
49. Hewlett Packard Enterprise
50. Homer Logistics, Inc.
51. IBM Corporation
52. IDEO LP
53. Imgur Inc.
54. Indiegogo, Inc.
55. Kargo
56. Knotel
57. Lam Research Corporation
58. Levi Strauss & Co.
59. Linden Research, Inc.
60. LinkedIn Corporation
61. Lithium Technologies, LLC
62. Lyft, Inc.
63. Lytro, Inc.
64. Mapbox
65. Marin Software Incorporated
66. Medidata Solutions, Inc.
67. Microsoft Corporation

68. Molecule Software, Inc.
69. MongoDB, Inc.
70. Motivate International Inc.
71. Mozilla
72. NETGEAR, Inc.
73. NewsCred, Inc.
74. NIO U.S.
75. Oath Inc.
76. Patreon, Inc.
77. PayPal Holdings, Inc.
78. Pinterest, Inc.
79. Pixability, Inc.
80. Postmates Inc.
81. Quantcast Corp.
82. RealNetworks, Inc.
83. Reddit, Inc.
84. Redfin Corporation
85. salesforce.com inc.
86. Scopely, Inc.
87. Shutterstock, Inc.
88. Singularity University
89. Sizmek, Inc.
90. SpaceX

91. Spokeo, Inc.
92. Spotify USA Inc.
93. Square, Inc.
94. Squarespace, Inc.
95. Strava, Inc.
96. SurveyMonkey Inc.
97. Tesla, Inc.
98. The Software and Information Industry Association
99. Thumbtack
100. TripAdvisor, Inc.
101. Tumblr, Inc.
102. Turo Inc.
103. Twilio Inc.
104. Twitter Inc.
105. Uber Technologies, Inc.
106. Udacity Inc.
107. Upwork Inc.
108. Verizon Communications Inc.
109. Via
110. Warby Parker
111. Work & Co.
112. Workday, Inc.
113. Yelp Inc.

114. Zendesk, Inc.

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on December 21, 2017, a copy of the foregoing pleading was filed electronically with the Clerk of Court to be served by operation of the Court's electronic filing system.

/s/ Andrew J. Pincus  
Andrew J. Pincus