STUDENT SENATE RESOLUTION 2017-125

TITLE: Resolution Supporting President Fuchs’ reaffirmation of the University of Florida’s Commitment to the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Program

AUTHOR (S): Senator Dylan Santalo, Hispanic Student Association President Robert Lemus, Senator Saloni Patel

SPONSOR (S): Senate President Jackie Phillips, Budget Chairman Ian Green, Allocations Chairwoman Janae Moodie, Senator Zachariah Chou, STAAR Agency Head Evelyn Veras, Senator Brett Oehrle

WHEREAS, the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Program is a policy passed in 2012 that allows certain people who came to the United States as children to request consideration of deferred action for a period of two years and allows eligibility for work authorization (subject to renewal)[i]; and,

WHEREAS, approximately 800,000 youths are under this program and the Minority Policy Institute estimates that there are over 1.2 million Dreamers to whom this program applies to[ii]; and,

WHEREAS, on Tuesday, September 5th, 2017, President Donald Trump and his administration announced that they will rescind the DACA Program and that they are giving Congress a 6-month window to pass a bill to protect the DACA recipients[iii]; and,

WHEREAS, with the removal of this program, the Gator Nation and the United States may lose the talent, determination, and overall contribution brought forth by the individuals protected by the DACA Program; and,

WHEREAS, the University of Florida President’s Office stated “I want to reaffirm the University of Florida’s commitment to our students of undocumented parents and our support for this program” and “the DACA program and our “Dreamers” add significantly to our university’s excellence in education, research and the economic impact the university has on our state”[iv]; and,
WHEREAS, as one united gator nation, we support our fellow gators and their families who are represented under the DACA Program[v]; and,

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the University of Florida Student Senate recognizes the importance of embracing all members of our community by maintaining a welcoming environment.

THEREFORE, LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate encourages students to utilize resources such as U Matter We Care, UF Students Financial Affairs Office, and Multicultural and Diversity Affairs for more information and support.

THEREFORE, LET IT BE FINALLY RESOLVED that the University of Florida Senate aligns its support with President Kent Fuchs on our commitment to undocumented students, their families, and the DACA Program.

Proviso: A copy of this resolution shall be sent to President W. Kent Fuchs, Vice President of Student Affairs Dr. Parrott, Interim Dean of Students Heather White, Multicultural and Diversity Affairs Director of Hispanic-Latino Affairs Gabe Lara, & Vice President of Programming of the Hispanic Student Association David Enriquez.

Jackie Phillips  
Senate President  
9/21/17

[i] https://www.uscis.gov/archive/consideration-deferred-action-childhood-arrivals-daca


[v] DREAMers: applies generally to undocumented immigrants under the age of 35 seeking full or partial legalization / amnesty and/or taxpayer subsidized tuition.

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