Rep. Cuellar Defends DACA and DREAMers

Supports Long-term Solutions for Immigration System

Rep. Cuellar, in March 2021, co-sponsored H.R. 6, the American Dream and Promise Act of 2021. (PASSED HOUSE).

Legislation to provide a route to citizenship for Dreamers — undocumented immigrants brought to the U.S. as children — as well as individuals shielded by Temporary Protected Status and Deferred Enforced Departure.

Rep. Cuellar, in March 2019, co-sponsored H.R. 6, the American Dream and Promise Act of 2019. (PASSED HOUSE)

Legislation to provide conditional green cards and work authorizations to immigrants who were brought illegally to the U.S. as children if they meet criteria similar to the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program.

Rep. Cuellar supported two separate amendments in the 2019 Homeland Security Appropriations bill that prohibit DHS from deporting, detaining or initiating removal proceedings for DACA recipients.

These amendments applied to DACA recipients who have served or are currently serving in the US Military, and DACA recipients more broadly, so long as they are in good standing and still meet all the requirements of eligibility for the DACA program.

Rep. Cuellar, in September 2017, co-sponsored H.R. 3440, the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act of 2017.

Legislation to authorize the cancellation of removal and adjustment of status of certain individuals who are long-term United States residents and who entered the United States as children.

Rep. Cuellar, in January 2015, opposed a floor amendment that bars the federal government to implement, administer, carry out or enforce immigration policies or to grant any federal benefit to any illegal immigrant.

Amendment applied to deferred action against illegal immigrants and focused on prosecutorial discretion and changes to immigration enforcement priorities, as well as any substantially similar policies issued in the future. It also would declare that such immigration policies have no statutory or constitutional basis.

Rep. Cuellar, in January 2015, opposed a floor amendment that bars federal government to consider new, renewal or previously denied DACA applications.

Opposed the prohibition of funding to any agency or instrumentality of the federal government to consider new, renewal or previously denied applications under the president's 2012 Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program or by any other succeeding executive policy.

Rep. Cuellar, in August 2014, opposed H.R. 5272, intended to prohibit certain actions with respect to deferred action for aliens not lawfully present in the United States.

Legislation to freeze the DACA program and prohibit the President form taking further executive actions.

Rep. Cuellar, November 2011, co-sponsored H.R. 1842, the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act of 2011.

Legislation to authorize the cancellation of removal and adjustment of status of certain alien students who are long-term United States residents and who entered the United States as children.