

For Immediate Release January 19, 2018

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An Open Letter to Senators Perdue and Isakson on DACA from Atlanta's Interfaith Leadership

Dear Senator Isakson and Senator Perdue:

Since September 2017, when President Trump announced the end of the DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) program, each day more than 120 people lose their legal status in the United States and become vulnerable to immediate pick-up by Immigration Enforcement. Upwards of 800,000 people who call America home are threatened with deportation to countries that they do not know and have never known. As you are likely aware, among these people, known as Dreamers, are students, teachers, and other law-abiding, productive residents of our great nation.

The time to act is now. We support bipartisan, common-sense legislation like that proposed by your colleagues, Senator Durbin (D-IL) and Senator Graham (R-SC) to fix the program so that these Dreamers, who are the innocent ones in this debate, will be permitted to stay in our country and earn their way to citizenship.

We, as clergy and lay leaders, representing Atlanta's interfaith community, urge you to support such legislation, announce your support immediately and do so in the strongest possible terms.

Our own immigrant experiences are examples of coming to this country in a variety of ways. We have succeeded as diverse communities within our common location, fulfilling our dreams.

These Dreamers deserve the same opportunity.

The cause is urgent; the time is now.

Sincerely,

Your Constituents in Georgia

- Interfaith Community Initiatives (ICI)
- Faith Alliance of Metro Atlanta (FAMA)
- The Jewish Community Relations Council of Atlanta (JCRC)
- Neshama Interfaith Center
- Islamic Speakers Bureau of Atlanta
- CAIR Georgia
- Sisters United in Human Service
- Compassionate Atlanta
- Columbia Presbyterian Seminary
- New Sanctuary Movement
- Bend the Arc

- Presbytery of Greater Atlanta
- Atlanta Society of Muslim Men
- IMAN, Atlanta
- Sandy Springs Interfaith Clergy representing:

Congregation Or Hadash

Holy Innocents Episcopal Church

Congregation B'nai Torah

Temple Sinai

Sandy Springs United Methodist Church

Temple Emanu-El

North Springs United Methodist Church

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