



Legislation Text

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The official copy considered by the City Council is the first reader copy.

Introductory*

City of Baltimore Council Bill R (Resolution)

Introduced by: Councilmember Cohen

A Resolution Entitled

A Council Resolution concerning **Calling on Congress to Immediately Pass the Dream Act**

For the purpose of calling on Congress to immediately pass the Dream Act of 2017; expressing the City of Baltimore's commitment to promoting programs and policies, such as the Dream Act, that empower and protect immigrant youth so that they can pursue their dreams and be active participatory members of the City of Baltimore; and calling on Congress to challenge legislation that would further militarize the border and support upcoming legislation protecting Temporary Protected Status recipients.

Recitals

Whereas, the Dream Act grows the national economy by adding \$329 billion directly to the economy by 2030, over 1.4 million new jobs, and a generating an additional \$10.2 billion in federal and state income and business tax revenue. For the state of Maryland, projections show that the Dream Act would contribute \$4.84 billion in growth to the economy.

Whereas, nearly 3.4 million young people would be eligible for permanent relief from deportation and be granted a path to citizenship, with the ability to attend college, join the military, or be authorized to work. As of 2010, 36,000 young people are eligible in Maryland.

Whereas, the Dream Act supports immigrant youth to work with dignity. Dreamers will be able to advance into careers that reflect their education and training, able to work for fair wages in safe and healthy conditions, and have legal protections for workplace abuses.

Whereas, with the Dream Act, immigrant youth will be able to continue or return to pursue higher education and have access to in-state tuition and student loans.

Whereas, the finite resources law enforcement wield can be reprioritized to focus on violent criminals and public safety concerns thus increasing safety for all Baltimoreans.

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the City Council of Baltimore, that the Council calls on Congress to immediately pass the Dream Act of 2017; commits to promoting programs and policies, such as the Dream Act, that empower and protect immigrant youth so that they can pursue their dreams and be active participatory members of the City of Baltimore; and calls on Congress to challenge legislation that would further militarize

the border and support upcoming legislation protecting Temporary Protected Status recipients.

And be it further resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the President, the Maryland Delegation to the 115th Congress, the Mayor, the Honorable Speaker of the House of Delegates, the President of the Maryland Senate, the members of the Baltimore City Delegation to the General Assembly, the Director of the Mayor's Office of Immigrant and Multicultural Affairs, and the Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the City Council.