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Ending DACA Will *Severely Harm Illinois Families* and Illinois's Workforce and Economy

DACA has been an undeniable success, transforming the lives of more than 800,000 Dreamers who have lived, worked, and contributed to the U.S. for decades, as well as millions of Americans. The average DACA recipient came to Illinois when they were six years old and have lived here for 28 years, earning their education, launching their careers, starting families, and integrating deeply into their communities. They have contributed to every facet of our economy and society and are American in every way, but on paper.

Despite more than a decade of relentless legal attacks, DACA has endured thanks to its strong legal foundation, strong bipartisan public support, and the clear and substantial benefits it brings to Illinois. DACA has proven to be one of the most popular immigration policies in decades and Americans overwhelmingly support protecting Dreamers. Ending DACA would not only disrupt hundreds of thousands of lives, but it would also undermine the values and economic strength of the United States. The Trump administration must not only preserve DACA and continue to process renewal applications, but also urge their allies across the country to cease their active efforts to dismantle DACA through legal attacks.

Ending DACA would be devastating, leading to families being separated, major cuts to the workforce, and significant long-term economic costs.

Ending DACA would hurt Illinois families:

- 2,000 U.S. citizens separated from their DACA spouse.
- 21,000 U.S. citizen children separated from a DACA parent.
- 16,000 U.S. citizen children pushed into poverty.
- 9,000 children stripped of health insurance, due to a DACA parent's coverage.

Ending DACA would shrink Illinois's labor force:

- 29,000 DACA recipients forced out of the workforce.
- 12,000 additional jobs removed if DACA-owned businesses close.

Ending DACA would drag down Illinois 's economy:

- $11.4 billion in future, projected economic losses.
- $329 million in lost revenue for future state and local governments.
- $65 million in annual business income losses

Congress needs to act now and provide a pathway to citizenship for DACA recipients and other Dreamers.

May 2026