



DETROIT FEDERATION OF TEACHERS

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Ivy Bailey, Interim President

Resolution to Build the Movement Demand President Obama Take Action to Pardon DACA Immigrant Youth

Whereas: As a sanctuary city, Detroit has a proud history of defending immigrant rights.

Whereas:

Whereas: The Deferred Action for Child Arrivals program (DACA) that President Obama enacted in 2012, created by Presidential Executive Order - is the most important and far reaching immigration reform adopted during President Obama's eight-year Presidency. It has altered the lives of millions of undocumented people. DACA offered about two million youth the opportunity to come out of the shadows and to live free from fear of imminent deportation.

Whereas: To qualify for DACA, undocumented youth had to have come to America as children, resided in the United States continuously since 2007, and be either a high school student or someone who received a GED or high school diploma. DACA offered many new rights and opportunities and allowed undocumented youth to live as near-citizens.

Whereas: One of Donald Trump's election promises was to attack DACA. The Trump administration has declared its intention to deport the DACA youth first for one reason: *they already have the information to go after them.*

Whereas: White Supremacist Trump followers have posted and circulated racist fliers in Southwest Detroit to intimidate the Latino and Muslim immigrant community, including a great many of our students and their families. (See http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2016/12/flyers_found_on_u_of_m_campus.html)

Whereas: Today, one of the most urgent tasks to defend undocumented immigrant youth is to demand President Obama use the same Executive Powers he used to create DACA to protect the more than 700,000 DACA enrollees from deportation. He has a number of ways he could do this, especially by issuing a Presidential Pardon to all the DACA enrollees as President Carter did for 200,000 "draft dodgers" after the Vietnam War.

Whereas: It would be dishonorable, unconscionable, and inhuman for Obama and the U.S. government to break their promise to protect these young people, and to instead, simply hand over the DACA youth to a Trump-run administration for deportation.

Therefore Be It Resolved That: The DFT calls on President Obama to use his Presidential powers to pardon DACA immigrant youth and protect them from Donald Trump's racist campaign to deport the 700,000+ immigrant students, youth, and young adults in DACA.

And Be It Further Resolved That: The DFT endorses the National Days of Action on December 9-10, 2016. We will publicize and work to organize further community actions: education, forums, demonstrations, and marches, to defend DACA youth and immigrants in our community and to build the movement for equality, dignity, and freedom for all.

In Detroit:

Friday December 9: March - 12:00 noon from Wayne State University Undergraduate Library
Saturday, December 10: March - 3pm, Clark Park (Vernor & Clark), Detroit

Submitted by: Nicole Conaway 12/8/16

