







March 15, 2019

CALIFORNIA CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION

Dear Members of Congress:

On behalf of the University of California (UC), the California State University (CSU) and the California Community Colleges (CCC), as well as the nearly 2.9 million students our institutions serve, we urge you to support the Dream and Promise Act of 2019, sponsored by Congresswoman Roybal-Allard, and encourage you to move the legislation quickly to President Trump's desk for signature.

California has long recognized the economic and societal contributions of our immigrant community and has worked to provide undocumented students and students seeking refuge in the United States with access to the state's public higher education systems. The Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program enabled some of these *Dreamers* to study and live without fear of deportation, and the Dream and Promise Act would provide these and other immigrants whose legal status is at risk with the permanent legislative solution they need to continue to thrive in our country.

Additional provisions in the Dream and Promise Act would provide immigrants who sought refuge in the United States following disasters and other extraordinary circumstances in their former home countries—individuals with Temporary Protected Status (TPS) and Deferred Enforced Departure (DED)—with similar protections to those that Dreamers would receive. Ultimately, this legislation would ensure that millions of immigrants have access to legal protections and the certainty that they may continue to contribute to our country and economy, much as they have since they arrived in the United States, many of them more than a decade ago.

Securing passage of the Dream and Promise Act presents an extraordinary opportunity for Congress to stand up for our shared American values of inclusivity, opportunity and excellence—regardless of background or birthplace. Providing these immigrants with a clear path for the future—to complete their education, build their careers and carve out their legacy—is indeed a wise decision for California and our nation, and is fundamental to our institutions' core principles of community. California Congressional Delegation March 15, 2019 Page 2

If you have questions about how the Dream and Promise Act would affect our institutions or would like to learn more about the work we do in your district, please contact our federal governmental relations staff. At UC, contact Chris Harrington

(<u>Chris.Harrington@ucdc.edu</u>, 202-974-6314); at CSU, contact Jim Gelb (<u>JGelb@calstate.edu</u>, 202-434-8060); and at CCC, contact Laura Metune (<u>LMetune@cccco.edu</u>, 916-323-5951).

Yours very truly,

Janet Napolitano President University of California

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