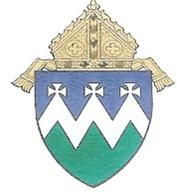




Diocese of Las Vegas
Bishop Joseph Pepe,

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Diocese of Reno
Bishop Randolph Calvo,

February 1, 2018

The Bishops of the Catholic Dioceses of Reno and Las Vegas join in this letter to express our support for the "Dream Act of 2017" (S. 1615, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals). The Dream Act is bipartisan legislation which was introduced on July 20, 2017, by Senators Lindsey Graham (R-SC) and Richard Durbin (D- IL). The Act is intended to protect youth and young adults who entered the United States as children, and know America as their only home, from deportation, and, to also provide them with a pathway to citizenship. The young people who stand to benefit from the Dream Act are contributors to our economy, and include military veterans, current service members, academic standouts in our universities, and leaders in our parishes and communities. They truly exemplify, and have demonstrated, the extraordinary contributions that immigrants can provide to our nation.

We firmly believe Dreamers deserve continued protection, and a path to citizenship. They should not be forced to live their lives in constant fear that they will be deported at any moment, or separated from their families. As Catholics, we believe that it is our moral duty to allow the Dreamers to remain in the United States. It is also in our best interest as a nation.

We respectfully request that you support the Dream Act, and these inspiring young people. We, as the leaders of the Catholic community in Nevada, support the Dream Act of 2017 (S. 1615), and support continued work toward reform of our immigration system in a humane and common-sense manner. We have expressed this position to our national representatives and encourage all of the faithful to consider doing the same.

Most Reverend Joseph Pepé
Bishop of Las Vegas

Most Reverend Randolph Calvo
Bishop of Reno