



## **The Latino Policy Forum Applauds SCOTUS Decision to Keep DACA in Place**

Yesterday, in a 5-4 decision, the Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) blocked the administration's attempt to end the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. This means that DACA remains in place for now, and the 650,000 DACA recipients nationwide, including nearly 34,000 here in Illinois, will continue to have temporary protection from deportation.

The Forum is breathing a big sigh of relief alongside everyone in the immigrant community. Immigrants, including DACA recipients, are part of the fabric of the U.S. workforce and are as essential to our national wellbeing today as ever: Healthcare is just one of the many industries that DACA recipients work in. The coronavirus pandemic has only further exposed our need for legislation that provides permanent protections for all immigrants.

When DACA recipients have more stability, the country has more stability. As the SCOTUS Opinion noted, rescinding DACA could result in \$215 billion economic-activity loss and \$60 billion in federal tax revenue loss over ten years, as well as \$1.25 billion in state and local tax loss yearly.

The Forum is pleased that this decision adheres to the law, which, in attempting to rescind DACA, the administration and Department of Homeland Security (DHS) did not follow. SCOTUS ruled that they violated the Administrative Procedures Act and failed to consider the resulting hardships to DACA recipients.

Although DHS may try to rescind the DACA program again, following the proper procedure, it is unlikely that the administration will have time to do so before the November presidential election.

DACA was always just a start, and there remains much more work to do to address our broken immigration system. This case underscores our urgent need for congressional support for a pathway to citizenship for DACA recipients and all other immigrants who lack protection. The Forum will continue to advocate for comprehensive immigration reform and for permanent protections for all immigrants.