



**COUNTY OF EL PASO**  
**DAVID C. STOUT**  
**COUNTY COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT TWO**

August 15, 2017

Ken Paxton  
Attorney General  
300 W. 15th Street  
Austin, TX 78701

Dear Attorney General Paxton,

I am writing to voice my solidarity with Dreamers and DACA recipients throughout the country. As a County Commissioner of a binational and bicultural region in El Paso, Texas, I truly recognize the enormous role these individuals play in our communities and families and their contributions to our schools, workplaces, and shared prosperity as a nation.

We have been elected to represent millions of people in the largest cities and communities in Texas. We raise our voices to remind our national leaders that contrary to the effort of certain Texas politicians to end DACA, we believe that our communities and our economy benefit when young people contribute their enthusiasm, skills, and talent to Texas communities and state revenues.

Reports estimate that ending DACA would cost Texas nearly \$6.3 billion in annual GDP losses. That doesn't include the tens of billions more in lost contributions to Medicare and Social Security, and the price tag to businesses in turnover costs.

Since June 2012, 124,000 young people who came to the United States as children and who now reside in Texas have come forward, passed background checks, and received permission to live and work in America. With DACA, they have advanced their education, started small businesses, and more fully established themselves as integral members of our society.

Ending DACA means all of these young people would be at risk of deportation and separation from their families and our communities. As Texans, we must stand up to this senselessly cruel result.

I invite you to urge President Trump to sustain his commitment and preserve DACA. I also would like to encourage President Trump and Republicans and Democrats in Congress to enact legislation that replaces fear and uncertainty with permanent protection for Dreamers. The recently introduced stand-alone Dream Act of 2017 would do that and I support it.

As the leaders of communities across Texas—we have seen these young people grow up in our communities—we recognize how they have enriched and strengthened our cities, states, schools, businesses, congregations, and families. We believe it is a moral imperative that the administration and the country know we are with them. We also join together to send our assurances to Dreamers: we see you, we value you, and we are ready to defend you.

Thank you for your time and consideration on the matter. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call my office.

Sincerely,



David Stout