

August 13, 2010

The Honorable Harry Reid
United States Senate
528 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C.

Dear Senator Reid,

The National Association of Social Workers (NASW) is writing to express our support for moving forward the DREAM Act in 2010.

We thank you for your commitment to comprehensive immigration reform and your efforts to encourage both parties to join you in fixing our nation's broken immigration system. Although bipartisan movement towards a comprehensive immigration reform package is currently lacking, there is action that should be taken immediately regarding immigration reform.

The DREAM Act provides an earned legal pathway to citizenship for many undocumented youth who pursue higher education or serve in the U.S. military. The DREAM Act allows the United States to invest now in students who can positively contribute to this country. We need skilled workers supporting the American economy and this bill would invest in the future workforce of our country.

NASW supports federal, state and local policies that uphold and support equity and human rights for immigrants. NASW advocates for policies that do not penalize children of undocumented immigrants for their parents' actions and that guarantee that human service and education needs of all children are met regardless of their or their parent's legal status.

We urge the Senate to move forward with the DREAM Act now. Thank you for your continued leadership and commitment to healing our nation's broken immigration system.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth J. Clark, PhD, ACSW, MPH
Executive Director