July 1, 2020

The Honorable Donald J. Trump  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As elected officials from across the state of Washington, we write to you united in our support for the more than 16,000 young people covered by the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival (DACA) program who call our state home.

These aspiring Washingtonians who contribute to our state and economy have built their lives here and are part of the fabric of our communities. They are students, teachers, doctors, and small-business professionals who are working, studying, and raising families. Their great courage, grit, and determination embody the American Dream. We are proud that they have given Washington the honor of being their home.

We are heartened by the Supreme Court’s June 18 decision ensuring that DACA recipients can continue to live their lives free from the fear and uncertainty they have shouldered since your decision to terminate the program in 2017. Particularly at a time when immigrant communities are facing disproportionate health and economic impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic, this new measure of security is sorely needed.

However, in their ruling, the Court remanded the issue back to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and left open the possibility that your administration may continue to pursue termination of the DACA program. If you were to proceed down that path, we are confident that you would cause staggering costs to our economy and substantial injury to employers across our state. More importantly, it would carry a devastating human toll for the thousands of DACA recipients we represent. These young people know no other place as their home and would be torn apart from their lives, their families, their jobs, and their communities. We hope you recognize that these costs are far too great to pursue further action on this issue.
We strongly encourage you to abandon any efforts to terminate a program that directly benefits thousands of Washingtonians who we are proud to serve. Instead, it is our fervent hope that you choose the path of empathy and reason by ensuring that these young people remain here at home, in America, where they belong.

Very truly yours,

Jay Inslee
Governor

Speaker Laurie Jinkins
Washington State House of Representatives

Senator Andy Billig
Majority Leader, Washington State Senate

Senator Marko Liias
Washington State Senate

Representative Alex Ramel
Washington State House of Representatives

Representative Frank Chopp
Washington State House of Representatives

Senator Jamie Pedersen
Washington State Senate

Senator Lisa Wellman
Washington State Senate

Representative My-Linh Thai
Washington State House of Representatives

Representative Strom Peterson
Washington State House of Representatives

Senator Karen Keiser
Washington State Senate

Senator Joe Nguyen
Washington State Senate
Representative Amy Walen
Washington State House of Representatives

Representative Dave Paul
Washington State House of Representatives

Representative Joe Fitzgibbon
Washington State House of Representatives

Representative Cindy Ryu
Washington State House of Representatives

Representative Sharon Tomiko Santos
Washington State House of Representatives

Senator Mona Das
Washington State Senate

Representative Sharon Wylie
Washington State House of Representatives

Representative Lisa Callan
Washington State House of Representatives

Senator Derek Stanford
Washington State Senate

Representative Eileen Cody
Washington State House of Representatives

Representative Roger Goodman
Washington State House of Representatives

Senator Patty Kuderer
Washington State Senate

Senator Steve Conway
Washington State Senate

Representative Debra Lekanoff
Washington State House of Representatives
Representative Sharon Shewmake
Washington State House of Representatives

Representative Mike Chapman
Washington State House of Representatives

Senator Sam Hunt
Washington State Senate

Senator Rebecca Saldaña
Washington State Senate

Representative Lauren Davis
Washington State House of Representatives

Representative Pat Sullivan
Washington State House of Representatives

Representative Tina Orwall
Washington State House of Representatives

Representative Marcus Riccelli
Washington House of Representatives

Senator David Frockt
Washington State Senate

Representative Javier Valdez
Washington State House of Representatives

Representative Davina Duerr
Washington State House of Representatives

Senator Emily Randall
Washington State Senate

Representative Nicole Macri
Washington State House of Representatives

Representative Jesse Johnson
Washington State House of Representatives
Senator Kevin Van De Wege
Washington State Senate

Senator Mark Mullet
Washington State Senate

Representative Steve Berquist
Washington State House of Representatives

Representative Drew Hansen
Washington State House of Representatives