

## American Council on Education Office of the President

October 23, 2007

United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator:

On behalf of the American Council on Education and the higher education associations listed below, I write in strong support of the Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act, which we view as an *education* bill.

A top priority for our associations and the institutions we represent is increased access to higher education and expanded educational opportunity for all students. This goal motivates our support for the DREAM Act legislation, which will assist young people who are already living in our communities and who are working hard to be productive members of our society.

The DREAM Act would remove some of the federal barriers to higher education for the children who have grown up our country, attended our schools, excelled in their academic pursuits, and now have the desire and ability to make vital contributions to our economy.

It is in our nation's best interest to educate all interested students. No one knows the cost of the knowledge, innovation, or economic development lost among the students who would benefit from enactment of the DREAM Act, and the Act would certainly generate increased tax revenue in the future.

We thank you for your leadership on this crucial legislation.

Sincerely,

David Ward President

DW/bj

On behalf of:

American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers American Association of Community Colleges Dream Act October 23, 2007 Page 2

American Association of State Colleges and Universities
American Council on Education
Association of American Universities
Association of Community College Trustees
Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities
National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education
National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities
National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators
U.S. Public Interest Research Group

cc: Terry Hartle