

Bar Removal of Individuals who Dream and Grow our Economy **(BRIDGE) Act**

- **The BRIDGE Act offers a temporary bipartisan legislative solution to protect DACA youth.** The BRIDGE Act is a legislative effort which would protect DACA youth by providing them with temporary relief from deportation for up to three years. It is intended to serve as a stop-gap measure while Congress seeks a permanent solution to reform our broken immigration system.
- **DACA youth enrich America, and they should be allowed to continue to reach their full professional potential.** There are more than 740,000 young people who have benefitted from DACA. They are contributors to our economy, academic standouts in our universities, veterans of our military, and leaders in our parishes. The BRIDGE Act is a bipartisan measure that aims to ensure that DACA youth are able to finish their education and continue to contribute to our nation and communities.
- **We have a moral obligation to shield DACA youth from deportation and keep their families together.** As Catholics, we believe in protecting the dignity of every human being, especially that of our children. The Catholic Bishops have long supported DACA youth and their families. These young people entered the U.S. as children and know America as their only home. They complied with our government in good faith - coming forward and providing personal information, submitting to a background check, and paying a fee. The BRIDGE Act would help to protect DACA youth from deportation and prevent devastating family separation.
- **The BRIDGE Act makes financial sense.** Ending work authorization for DACA recipients could cause businesses and employers to incur unnecessary turnover costs of \$3.4 billion and could cause far-reaching unemployment, leading to the immediate job loss of 645,145 DACA recipients currently employed by businesses in the United States. Additionally, ending DACA could reduce Social Security and Medicare tax contributions by DACA employees and employers by \$24.6 billion over a decade, weakening the Social Security and Medicare trust funds.