



THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY  
OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

BAKERSFIELD

November 8, 2021

CHANNEL ISLANDS

CHICO

Andria Strano  
Acting Chief, Office of Policy and Strategy  
Division of Humanitarian Affairs  
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services  
Department of Homeland Security  
5900 Capital Gateway Drive  
Camp Springs, MD 20746

DOMINGUEZ HILLS

EAST BAY

FRESNO

FULLERTON

**RE: DHS DOCKET NO. USCIS-2021-0006, Comments in Response to Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals**

HUMBOLDT

Dear Chief Strano:

LONG BEACH

LOS ANGELES

On behalf of the California State University (CSU), I write to submit comments in response to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services' (USCIS) proposed rule, *Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals*, published on September 28, 2021. The California State University strongly supports the efforts by the Department of Homeland Security to strengthen and fortify the DACA program, which remains vitally important to so many valued members of our extended university community.

MARITIME ACADEMY

MONTEREY BAY

NORTHRIDGE

POMONA

The CSU is the nation's largest four-year public university, comprised of 23 campuses and eight off-campus centers located throughout the state of California; we enroll 486,000 students and employ 56,000 faculty and staff. Established in 1960, the mission of the CSU is to provide high-quality, affordable education to meet the ever-changing needs of California and its workforce of today and tomorrow. With its commitment to quality, opportunity, student success and educational equity, the CSU is renowned for superb teaching, innovative research and producing job-ready graduates. Each year, the CSU awards more than 130,000 degrees. In fact, one in every 10 California employees has earned a CSU degree, while one in every 20 Americans holding a college degree is a graduate of the CSU. Our global alumni base is more than 4 million strong.

SACRAMENTO

SAN BERNARDINO

SAN DIEGO

SAN FRANCISCO

SAN JOSÉ

SAN LUIS OBISPO

The CSU is proud to be the nation's most diverse and, I firmly believe, its most consequential university. The CSU educates the most ethnically, economically and academically diverse student body in the nation and creates opportunity for students of California to reach their educational goals and become our state's and nation's future leaders. Approximately 10,000 students enrolled at the CSU are

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Chief Andria Strano

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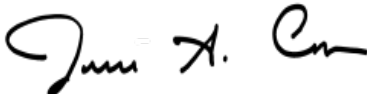
undocumented. The CSU estimates that 500 of our employees have DACA status. Indeed, some of the CSU's brightest students and most dedicated employees are Dreamers and they are found on each of our 23 campuses. They, like their peers, seek a better life for themselves and their families, and they powerfully contribute to the strength of the university and their own communities through service and leadership.

These individuals were raised in the United States and, to many, this is the only home they have ever known. Absent the protection afforded by DACA, these important members of our university community would not be able to legally work to provide for their families and would be haunted by the reality that they might, at any time, be removed from the country that has been their home, and separated from their families and friends.

It is important that our Dreamers be allowed to continue to positively contribute to our economy and society, much as they have for many years. California and the CSU have long recognized the economic and societal contributions of our immigrant community and have worked to provide undocumented students with access to the state's public higher education systems. The DACA program helps our Dreamers to complete their education, build their careers and carve out their legacies – a result that well serves California and our nation, and one that is aligned with the CSU's core principles of inclusive excellence and empowering upward social mobility.

The CSU applauds the effort by the Department of Homeland Security to strengthen and fortify the DACA program. However, the proposed rule falls short of a permanent solution – one that will allow our Dreamers to achieve their personal, educational and professional goals. The CSU continues to urge Congress to take swift, bipartisan legislative action toward a much-needed permanent and forward-focused solution so that our Dreamers can continue to fulfill their human potential as they strengthen our campuses, communities, state and nation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph I. Castro". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

Joseph I. Castro, Ph.D., M.P.P.  
Chancellor