



# Young Lives on Hold: The College Dreams of Undocumented Students

## Statement of Support

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Against all odds, and with courage and determination, at least 65,000 unauthorized immigrant youth have been graduating from American high schools annually during the past few years. Yet they have great difficulty accessing affordable higher education, so they can earn a college degree, acquire advanced knowledge and develop skills required by our information-based economy, in hopes of becoming productive citizens in their adopted homeland of America.

I ask all fair-minded Americans to read this well-researched and critically important report on an exceptional group of young people who came with their parents as infants or young children, worked hard and thrived in the only country they know. The Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors Act (DREAM Act) would provide them a legal means to work and attend college or serve in the U.S. military, and earn legal residency on the pathway to citizenship. They constitute intellectual and human capital that our country can ill afford to ignore. Echoing the United Negro College Fund's appeal, I urge you to recall the compelling thought that "a mind is a terrible thing to waste."

Please join the College Board in urging the United States Congress and your state legislatures to pass the DREAM Act.