



**ALLIANCE OF NEW YORK STATE YMCAs  
YOUTH AND GOVERNMENT  
Legislative Bill**

**Bill # 11**

**Referred to Committee:  
5**

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**Action on the Bill**

**WWW.YMCANYS.ORG/YAG**

**Assembly**

**Senate**

\_\_\_  Passed

\_\_\_  Passed

\_\_\_  Defeated

\_\_\_  Defeated

**AN ACT TO:** Restructure the Dream Act (DACA).

**The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly do enact as follows:**

**Purpose**

The purpose of this bill is to help individuals who meet certain requirements to have an opportunity to enlist in the military or go to college and have a path to citizenship which they would not have without legislation.

**Summary of Provisions**

**Section 1: Definitions**

DACA stands for Development Relief and Education for Alien Minors. It is an act/law that permits the children (minors) of undocumented immigrants to remain in the United States legally. People who are enrolled in DACA or the Dream Act are known as Dreamers. Immigrants must have come to the United States before their 16<sup>th</sup> birthday. They must have completed a high school or its equivalent, honorable discharged from military service, or currently enrolled in high school. They must not have been convicted of a felony or serious misdemeanor.

**Section 2:**

This bill will prevent termination of the Dream Act. We want to renew this important legislation. We would like to keep the fee for application for DACA to be \$495.00. They must also meet the aforementioned requirements of the preceding paragraph. They will also be required to submit and produce several forms of proof that they have met the requirements. We would also like to create a program that will help these DACA candidates find employment within the labor force.

**Justification**

DACA has proven to increase labor force participation and decrease the unemployment rate. Studies have shown that DACA has moved 50 to 75 thousand unauthorized immigrants into employment. People who were DACA eligible were less likely to live in poverty than non-eligible immigrants. DACA eligible workers tend to have skill high-paying jobs. DACA has increased the wages and labor force participation of DACA eligible immigrants which in turn has reduced the number of unauthorized immigrant households living in poverty. We strongly believe that renewal of this program will help any questions about immigration problems within the state.

**Fiscal Implications**

Many of the fiscal implications would be similar to the original program. There will be some additional costs for the agency that this bill proposes. However, the \$495.00 application fee per person will contribute to paying these costs. Furthermore, once these individuals have gained employment it will reduce public aid costs. These savings could be put into the program.

**Effective Date**

This bill will go into effect immediately after passage.