

September 5, 2017

Dear Colleagues:

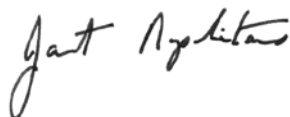
As you have no doubt read and seen in today's news, President Donald J. Trump has directed the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to eliminate Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA). I am deeply troubled by President Trump's decision to end DACA and uproot the lives of an estimated 800,000 Dreamers across the nation. This is a backward-thinking, far-reaching move that threatens to separate families and derail the futures of some of this country's brightest young minds, thousands of whom currently attend or have graduated from the institution I now lead, the University of California.

I am sending this note today because each of you, in your own ways at DHS, played a role in either the birth, implementation or growth of DACA. We carefully constructed the Executive Action to be constitutional, practical, and to solve a major flaw in our country's immigration enforcement approach. I believed then, and still do today, that DACA was a humane exercise of discretion for some of our country's best and brightest.

I want to thank you for the role you played in DACA and ask you to now turn your attention to the important advocacy that will be required to push Congress to act. While we are no longer together at DHS, we can collectively make a huge difference in this fight. In the coming days and weeks, you will see information from my office about a series of things I intend to do in this regard. I hope you will continue to join me in fighting for Dreamers and their cause and work with me to push Congress to protect them.

When we created DACA, we made an important statement about how we value our nation's youth. A contrary statement was made today by President Trump. I look forward to working with all of you in the coming weeks and months to remedy this injustice.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Janet Napolitano".

Janet Napolitano