

September 22, 2010

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In conjunction with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), we write to express our support for the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors Act (DREAM Act). The DREAM Act has always had strong bipartisan support, and the U.S. Catholic Bishops have been long standing supporters of the legislation.

While the USCCB continues to advocate for comprehensive immigration reform, the passage of this legislation is a reasonable action which should be taken now. It applies to young people who entered the United States before the age of sixteen, who have been here for at least five continuous years, who have earned a high school diploma, and who have no criminal record and who do not threaten national security. The bill would repeal federal restrictions that limit the ability of states to offer these young people in-state tuition and would create a pathway through which undocumented immigrant students could obtain conditional permanent residency.

This legislation would allow immigrant students, brought to this country as minors by their parents, the opportunity to pursue a promising future through college education or military service, which would benefit them and our country. Otherwise, these young people would face obstacles in the future because of their legal status and limited opportunities. We believe this legislation is practical, fair, and compassionate.

We ask that you contact Senator Richard Burr and Senator Kay Hagan and your elected Representative asking for their support of this legislation. More information about the DREAM Act may be found at [www.justiceforimmigrants.org/learn-issues.html](http://www.justiceforimmigrants.org/learn-issues.html)

May Our Lord Jesus bless you and all of those who are working for fair, compassionate and comprehensive immigration reform.

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis  
Bishop of Charlotte

Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge  
Bishop of Raleigh