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Committee:

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Resolution in Support of a Bipartisan Comprehensive Immigration Reform

Whereas, The University of Houston is the second most ethnically diverse research University in The United States¹; and

Whereas, under TX SB1528 , Students who were brought to the US before their 16th birthday and attended a Texas High School three years prior to their High School graduation are classified as Texas Residents for tuition purposes regardless of citizenship status²; and

Whereas, SB1528 allows undocumented students who meet the above criteria to apply for State Grants such as the Texas Public Education Grants, TASFA (state financial aid) and Texas Grants³; and

Whereas, On January 15th 2012 the Department of Homeland Security announced the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, which would allow undocumented immigrants who were brought to the United States as children to obtain temporary legal status; and

Whereas, the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program goes a long way in helping beneficiaries but falls short by restricting International Travel, Certain jobs that require Legal Permanent Residence (green card) thus leaving millions in limbo; and

Whereas, there are approximately 1000 undocumented students at the University of Houston who are eligible for the Deferred Action for Childhood arrivals⁴; and

Whereas, as long as the immigration system remains broken, DACA beneficiaries and their family members will remain in legal limbo pending congressional action.

¹ <http://www.uh.edu/academics/catalog/profile/index.php>

² <http://www.sos.state.tx.us/border/forms/reports-07/theceb-april2007.pdf>

³ [https://uhhelpdesk.custhelp.com/app/answers/detail/a_id/574/~/~sb-1528-students-\(previously-called-hb-1403\)](https://uhhelpdesk.custhelp.com/app/answers/detail/a_id/574/~/~sb-1528-students-(previously-called-hb-1403))
<http://www.collegeforalltexans.com/index.cfm?objectid=D465D848-EA0F-C0EA-5209BC8C89262877>

⁴ <http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2012/08/20/colleges-work-inform-undocumented-students-about-deferred-action>

Therefore be it resolved the 49th Senate of the Student Government Association of the University of Houston:

That the University of Houston SGA affirms its support of SB1528 and opposes any attempts by the Texas legislature to remove or dilute its benefits to thousands of students; and

Be it Further Resolved, That the University of Houston Student Government Association opposes any attempts by the Texas legislature to deny State benefits such as Drivers Licenses and ID cards to DACA beneficiaries; and

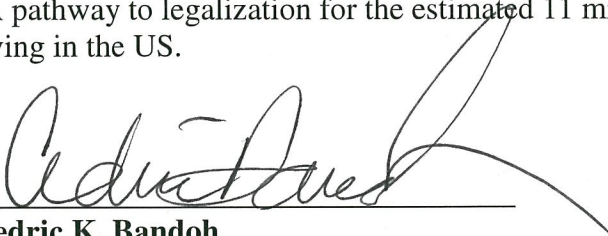
Be it Finally Resolved, That the University of Houston Student Government Association calls on the Texas Congressional delegation to support a Comprehensive immigration plan fostered by the bipartisan "gang of eight" that includes;

-The Development, Relief and Education of Alien Minors Act (DREAM Act) that provides a fast track to LPR (Legal Permanent Resident) Status and eventual citizenship to eligible beneficiaries.

-A Pathway to LPR (Legal Permanent Resident) status and eventual citizenship to the estimated 11 million undocumented immigrants currently living in the country.

-The Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Act (STEM) Jobs Act which would increase the number of visas allotted to International Graduate students in a STEM field.

-A pathway to legalization for the estimated 11 million undocumented immigrants currently living in the US.



Cedric K. Bandoh
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APPROVED