

AACN's

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AACN Expresses Deep Concern Over President's Decision to Rescind DACA

On September 5, the White House issued a [press release](#) ending the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals ([DACA](#)) program. The announcement immediately followed the Department of Homeland Security's [memorandum](#) to "execute a [wind-down](#) of the program." The DACA program, established in 2012 under President Obama via executive order, provides temporary protection and work authorization to eligible young people who entered the United States as children. Nearly 800,000 young people have obtained DACA status since its creation, many of whom were able to pursue higher educational opportunities. The White House is placing responsibility on Congress to craft a legislative solution within the next six months should it want to extend protections.

AACN expresses concerns over the Administration's decision to rescind DACA, and its implications for students who depend on the program. Earlier this year, the association supported two pieces of legislation supporting DACA recipients: the [DREAM Act of 2017](#), which would provide a select group of immigrant students access to a path toward citizenship based on certain criteria; and, the Bar Removal of Individuals who Dream and Grow our Economy ([BRIDGE](#)) Act, which would allow the DACA provisions to become law until Congress changed or repealed them. AACN will continue to monitor and advocate on behalf of this issue. If you need any guidance on its status, please contact Chief Policy Officer Suzanne Miyamoto at smiyamoto@aacnnursing.org. **Please urge Congress to pass the DREAM Act in order to protect DACA individuals. [Take action NOW.](#)**

Senate Appropriations LHHS-ED Subcommittee Approves Increased Funding for NIH, Opioid Crisis, and Education

Senate Appropriations

The Senate Appropriations Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education (LHHS-Ed) [Subcommittee marked up](#) the Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 appropriations bill on September 6, and the [full Appropriations Committee](#) is set to mark up the bill tomorrow, September 7. In advance of the markup, AACN Grassroots Network members took swift action in an interprofessional Twitter Storm on September 5, urging their Senators on the Appropriations Committee to protect funding for the Title VII Health Professions and Title VIII programs. The subcommittee [approved increases](#) for NIH research, opioid abuse prevention and treatment, and education. AACN will release more information, including spending levels for programs of interest, after the full committee considers the bill.

House Appropriations

Before August Recess, the House Appropriations Committee approved their Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education (LHHS-ED) bill, which cut the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development programs by \$18.3 million and consolidated four of the five programs. AACN expressed concern over consolidating programs as each one is designed to target specific needs within the nursing workforce and patient populations. The House Committee on Rules is convening on September 5 and 6 to rule on a full 12 appropriations bill spending package, [H.R. 3354](#), for FY 2018. The eight non-defense appropriations bills will be combined with the four bills that comprised the "[security minibus](#)," which the House passed on July 27.

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