



TOP U.S. EMPLOYERS SUBMIT AMICUS BRIEF TO 5TH CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS

By Editor
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WASHINGTON D.C. - The Coalition for the American Dream, which comprises more than 100 of the nation's top businesses and trade associations representing every major sector of the economy and millions of U.S. workers, affirmed its support for an amicus brief filed today aimed at protecting the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. As the legal debate challenging the legality of DACA continues, over 50 leading U.S. companies, organizations, and trade associations today filed an amicus brief in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit in support of the program. The Court of Appeals is currently reviewing a 2023 decision by the U.S. District Court Judge Hanen against DACA.

Close to 600,000 DACA recipients across the country gained access to work authorization and deportation protections provided through the program over the last 11 years, allowing them to contribute their skills and talents to the American workforce and strengthen our economy.

Signatories include National Retail Federation, National Association of Manufacturers, Apple, American Hotel & Lodging Association, Microsoft, Cisco Systems Inc, Dropbox, Inc, Levi Strauss & Co, Google LLC, Ernst & Young LLP, IBM, **Texas Business Leadership Council**, Meta, Wise US Inc, The Nielsen Company, Amazon, TechNet, Starbucks, and Verizon.

A key quote from the brief is:

"DACA recipients have helped to drive and sustain the American economy by filling crucial labor shortages, creating new businesses, spending their income on American products and services, and paying taxes... Invalidating DACA will therefore inflict serious harm on U.S. companies, workers, and the American economy as a whole," reads the brief. "If the District Court's decision is upheld, approximately 1,700 people will lose their jobs each day—because their DACA status will end. Companies will lose valued employees, workers will lose employers and colleagues, and our national GDP will contract by up to \$460 billion."

Background:

DACA has remained a transformative policy, contributing an estimated \$13.3 billion to the U.S. economy each year.

Dreamers live in every state across the country, work in every sector of the economy, and contribute tens of billions of dollars to the national GDP every year.

Litigation challenging the legality of the DACA program is currently at the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals. In September 2023, Judge Andrew Hanen, a federal judge in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas, issued a ruling declaring that the DACA program is illegal. The Biden administration, joined by DACA recipients and the State of New Jersey, have appealed that ruling, with oral arguments expected later this year and a decision likely sometime in 2025. If the Fifth Circuit upholds Judge Hanen's decision, the case will then likely be appealed to the Supreme Court.