

**TO: SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE**

(VIA 2/5/2018 E-MAIL TO [SJUD.EXHIBITS@OREGONLEGISLATURE.GOV](mailto:SJUD.EXHIBITS@OREGONLEGISLATURE.GOV))

**RE: SENATE BILL 1538**

**PETITIONS FOR AMENDMENT PROTECTING EXISTING  
OREGON DRIVERS LICENSES AND ID CARDS  
FROM CHANGES IN FEDERAL IMMIGRATION POLICY**

**Dear Chair Prozanski and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee**

Please give your thoughtful and compassionate consideration to the following minor amendment to SB 1538 requested by the signers of the petitions respectfully submitted with this letter:

**SECTION 1.** ORS 807.021 is amended to read:

ORS 807.021 (1) Except as provided in ORS 807.310(5) and 807.405(4), prior to issuing, renewing or replacing any driver license, driver permit, or identification card that is not a Real ID, the Department of Transportation shall require a person to provide the Social Security number assigned to the person by the United States Social Security Administration and proof of legal presence in the United States or, if the person is not eligible for a Social Security number, proof of legal presence in the United States and proof that the person is not eligible for a Social Security number.

(2) For purposes of subsection (1) of this section:

(a) A person provides proof of legal presence in the United States by submitting valid documentation, as defined by the department by rule, that the person is a citizen or permanent legal resident of the United States or is otherwise legally present in the United States in accordance with immigration laws.

**(b) In addition to proof otherwise defined by rule or statute, and in the absence of proof of crime, fraud, or other disqualifying facts, a signed Department of Homeland Security Form I-797, Notice of Action or other evidence previously accepted as establishing legal presence in the United States under subsection (2)(a) shall constitute continuing proof of such legal presence for purposes of continued use, validity, and reissuance, notwithstanding any expiration of such proof or repeal, replacement, or amendment of federal law or policy relating thereto.**

The draft text and explanation are attached to each petition. The petitions were circulated over the weekend at a gathering of Central Oregon faith communities, known as Central Oregon Neighborlove, which has been meeting over the past year or so to address our region's immigration issues. The proposed amendment's sole purpose is to assure that changes in federal law and policy will not be used as a basis for failing to honor existing non-Real-ID Oregon drivers' licenses and ID cards.

In this short session, with its full agenda and strict time limits on introducing new bills, SB 1533 appears to offer the only opportunity this legislature will have to assure that current holders of valid Oregon drivers licenses and ID cards get this limited but vital measure of protection from the shifting winds of federal immigration policy.

Respectfully submitted,

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ATTACHMENTS: JANUARY 30, 2018, REUTERS ARTICLE AND PDF SCANS OF SIGNED PETITIONS

REUTERS: JANUARY 30, 2018

# As U.S. immigration debate rages, 'Dreamers' await their fate

Lucy Nicholson

LOS ANGELES (Reuters) - As U.S. President Donald Trump and congressional leaders discuss the fate of some 700,000 immigrants brought to the United States illegally as children, the young people whose lives hang in the balance fret about their future.

Reuters spoke to five people covered by the Obama-era Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, or DACA, program. Many older members of the group, nicknamed "Dreamers," balance college classes and jobs amid a looming March 5 deadline set by Trump to repeal the program unless Congress preserves it.

Trump wants tighter restrictions on immigration that he deems necessary to improve national security and protect the jobs of working class Americans. Supporters of the DACA program say eliminating it would punish people who were too young to know the consequences of their family's decision to move to the U.S. and remove productive people from the economy.

Martha Valenzuela, 23, was brought to the U.S. when she was 2 years old. She has no memories of Mexico. **DACA allowed her to get a driver's license** and to leave an informal job at a taqueria where she earned less than minimum wage. Now she works for a public relations firm as an account coordinator.

"I knew DACA was going to be rescinded, or at least I thought it was, the day he won the election," said Javier Hernandez Kistte, 27, referring to Trump's anti-immigration stance during the 2016 presidential campaign. Kistte arrived in the country with his family from Mexico City when he was 8 years old.

Some DACA beneficiaries said they did not realize where their families were headed when they set off for the United States. "My parents told me we were coming to Disneyland," said Karla Estrada, 26. "We did not go to Disneyland."