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Supreme Court Deadlock on Expanded DACA and DAPA

Latino Policy Forum statement on Supreme Court decision in U.S. v Texas

Chicago – June 23, 2016 – The Latino Policy Forum condemns the Supreme Court’s inability to reach a decision today on the immigration executive actions announced by the Obama Administration on November 20, 2014 that would have allowed up to 5 million immigrants to apply for protection from deportation and work legally in the U.S.

With the 4-to-4 split in [United States v Texas](#), the ruling of the U.S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals regarding the expansion of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program (“DACA+”) and the Deferred Action for Parents of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents program (“DAPA”) stands –keeping the programs from going into effect. DACA+ proposed to remove the age cap of 31 years of age for immigrants to obtain temporary, renewable protection from deportation and apply for temporary work permits. The DAPA program would have granted deportation protection to millions of undocumented immigrants who have US citizen or permanent resident children.

“Today’s ruling by the Supreme Court is an injustice against immigrant families and their loved ones,” said Sylvia Puente, executive director of the Forum. “This strengthens our resolve and that of the immigrant community to advocate for a long-term legislative solution to ensure that millions of undocumented immigrants across the country have the opportunity to come out of the shadows.” The original immigration executive action signed by the Obama administration in June 2012 remains unaffected by today’s ruling and the Latino Policy Forum encourages anyone who believes they may be eligible to apply to consult with an [accredited](#) legal service organization.

The Latino Policy Forum has worked to ensure that immigrants living the United States are recognized as valuable and contributing members of society with equal access to equity and prosperity, regardless of their country of origin or current immigration status.

This Supreme Court ruling comes in the final days of Immigrant Heritage Month. Though we grieve for those who are negatively affected by this ruling, it is imperative to continue working diligently to recognize and lift up the innumerable and immeasurable ways in which the immigrant community has strengthened our country. The Forum and its partners are undeterred in their resolve to support just immigration reform and immigrant integration polices at all levels of government. This ruling is indeed a setback, but we are reminded of the words of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr: “The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends towards justice.”

To see video of the President’s remarks on the Supreme Court’s ruling in *United States v Texas* click [here](#).

About the Latino Policy Forum

The Latino Policy Forum is the only organization in the Chicago area that facilitates the involvement of Latinos at all levels of public decision-making. The Forum conducts analysis to inform, influence and lead. Its goals are to improve education outcomes, advocate for affordable housing, promote just immigration policies, and engage diverse sectors of the community, with an understanding that advancing Latinos advances a shared future all. For more information, visit www.latinopolicyforum.org.

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