



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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***Cien Amigos* Strongly Denounces President Trump's Decision to End the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Program**

Sacramento, Calif. - *Cien Amigos* issued the following statement on the Trump Administration's Decision to End the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Program and his Priorities for Immigration Changes:

"*Cien Amigos* stands in solidarity with the hundreds of thousands of young adults who were brought to this country as young children and have fully integrated into the fabric of this country to become productive members of our society," said Antonio de la O, chair of *Cien Amigos*. "We strongly denounce the termination of the DACA program as a cruel, discriminatory and perhaps illegal measure which punishes these deserving young adults who contribute so much to our country and our society. They courageously came out of the shadows, entrusted the US Government with their personal information, submitted to an extreme vetting process and now feel rightly betrayed by the only country most of them have ever known."

"Under the change announced yesterday, President Trump offers Congress the opportunity to consider appropriate legislative solutions within six months," de la O added. "We call on Congressional leaders to right the wrong done yesterday and craft a solution to allow these young men and women to stay in the country legally and permanently."

De la O concluded, "Yesterday's announcement goes beyond eliminating to the DACA program and calls for draconian changes to 'control' the border, including: funding for a border wall, enhanced vetting for all immigrants including asylees and refugees and establishing a system that prioritizes immigrants based on skill and not based on family reunification. These are no 'solutions' at all. What we desperately need is to provide those in the shadows with a pathway to lawful residency and citizenship. We should not further drive them into the shadows."

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Cien Amigos, a non-partisan membership organization, seeks to support mutually beneficial bilateral projects and initiatives and to reinforce individual and institutional bonds between California and Mexico. With the mission of "Working for California and Mexico," *Cien Amigos* works to establish a platform for collective planning and concrete action to encourage the mutual prosperity of both California and Mexico.

For more information on *Cien Amigos*, visit <http://www.cien-amigos.org>.

Cien Amigos

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