



## DACA Rescinded—Fallout Is Political, Economic, Personal

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Attorney General Jeff Sessions announced Tuesday that the Trump administration will officially rescind the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program in six months. The Obama-era program began in June 2012, seeking to protect from deportation nearly 800,000 people who were brought into the country illegally as children and providing them with work visas. Sessions said the DACA program was a “circumvention of immigration laws” and an “unconstitutional exercise of authority by the Executive Branch.”

The fallout since the announcement has been immediate and palpable. The immigrant youth-led organization United We Dream streamed live footage on Facebook of protesters in front of the White House and high school students in Denver are walking out of school in protest. Javier Palomarez, the United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce leader, resigned from the Trump administration’s diversity council over the decision. According to the Washington Examiner:

In a subsequent press release, Palomarez said the Trump administration’s decision to rescind the DACA program is “disgraceful” and runs contrary to not only American values, but the administration’s own promise to focus specifically on illegal immigrants who have committed violent crimes and pose a threat to communities.

“Let’s lay the truth bare: President Trump has knowingly deceived the American people over the past seven months about his intentions to protect the innocent young men and women of the DACA program. ‘Rest easy,’ he assured Dreamers, while clarifying that his administration was, ‘not after the Dreamers, we are after criminals,’ ” Palomarez said in a statement.

“Now, they cannot rest easy. Now, they will be awake at night wondering whether tomorrow will be their last day on American soil.

“The president misled our country by fabricating a position and making [a] promise, only to turn around and do the complete opposite. This administration’s pro-growth agenda has sadly fallen to irrelevancy with the president’s lack of leadership, constant distractions, and inability to unite the country.”

CNN Money notes that ending DACA will likely deliver a hit to the national economy:

“Getting rid of DACA reduces the number of skilled workers and a lot of industries are facing worker shortages,” says Ike Brannon, a visiting fellow at the Cato Institute, a conservative research group. “To push this now is really an inopportune time.”

Brannon estimates that repealing DACA would also hit the U.S. government by deporting taxpayers. He forecasts a potential \$60 billion loss in tax revenue to the federal government and \$280 billion hit to economic growth over 10 years.

Sen. Thom Tillis, R-NC, said on Twitter that immigration policy should be set through legislation, rather than executive order, and that he intends to introduce legislation for undocumented children to earn legal status.

Today, the administration announced it will phase out the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA). (1/9)

CNN points out that there is a window in which Congress might be able to save DACA:

The move sets a clock for Congress to act to preserve the program's protections before the DACA recipients begin losing their status March 5, 2018.

In a statement, House Speaker Paul Ryan reiterated his aspiration that Congress will reach a solution in time. "It is my hope that the House and Senate, with the president's leadership, will be able to find consensus on a permanent legislative solution that includes ensuring that those who have done nothing wrong can still contribute as a valued part of this great country," Ryan said.

CNN adds that if Congress does not act and DACA expires, around 300,000 people will lose their status in 2018, and more than 320,000 would lose their status in 2019.

The Los Angeles Times reports that the decision could have a beneficial effect on Democrats' efforts to seize control of the House in 2018, particularly in California where more than a quarter of those shielded by DACA are believed to live. The publication predicts congressional Democrats will try to "pigeonhole Republicans on how the program is crafted in Congress, and how they vote if it gets to that point."