



## Hawaii joins coalition of states suing Trump administration over DACA repeal

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Hawaii has joined 15 other states in filing a lawsuit against the Trump administration for ending the Obama-era Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program.

The Trump administration announced on Tuesday that it has repealed the program, which was enacted by former President Barack Obama in 2012 to protect young undocumented immigrants from deportation and applies to approximately 800,000 people.

“Hawaii is going to court – again,” Hawaii Gov. David Ige said in a statement, referencing the state’s challenge to the Trump administration’s travel ban.

In June, led by Hawaii Attorney General Doug Chin, Hawaii filed its opposition to the travel ban, which imposes travel restriction on citizens of six majority-Muslim nations, to the U.S. Supreme Court.

“This time we’re joining 15 other states to fight for the future of our country’s Dreamers,” Ige said. “Six-hundred Dreamers currently go to Hawaii’s schools, work in our businesses and deserve certainty and stability.”

Chin praised the governor’s support of DACA, calling President Donald Trump’s actions illegal.

“With cruel indifference the president has taken an action that immediately robs hundreds of Hawaii residents of certainty in their future,” Chin said in a statement. “Many of these people, who have done nothing wrong, have only known Hawaii as their home. I am grateful to Governor Ige for his leadership and clear-eyed dedication to supporting the Dreamers and protecting DACA.”

Other Hawaii lawmakers have spoken out against the president’s decision.

“DACA is clearly constitutional. But by rescinding the program, the president puts the onus on Congress to act,” U.S. Sen. Mazie Hirono, D-Hawaii, said in a statement. “Congress must take appropriate action to provide permanent legal status to dreamers.”

A recent study by libertarian think tank the Cato Institute concluded that ending the program could cost Hawaii a total of \$577.5 million between 2018 and 2028.

The same study concluded that repealing DACA would cost the U.S. \$200 billion in aggregate economic costs and the cost to the government would be \$60 billion.