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Contact:
Camila Gallardo
cgallardo@nclr.org
(305)-215-4259

NCLR Applauds DOJ Appeal to Supreme Court on DACA and DAPA

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Today, the U.S. Justice Department appealed a 2–1 decision handed down by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit in New Orleans that had reaffirmed the injunction barring implementation of DAPA (Deferred Action for Parents of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents) and the expansion of DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals). The programs stand to help more than 4.4 million eligible immigrants, create 29,000 new jobs and grow our GDP by $230 billion by 2025.

“We are in complete agreement with the slew of legal scholars and historians who have stated that President Obama was well within his authority to expand DACA and create DAPA. Throughout our nation’s history, presidents of both parties have used their administrative powers to halt the deportation of specific groups of people. We applaud the DOJ for moving to ask the U.S. Supreme Court to affirm the president’s right to do precisely what his predecessors dating back to FDR have done,” said Janet Murguía, President and CEO, NCLR.

Despite the benefits for millions of American families and to the nation’s economy, these policies have been met with visceral attacks. Not only have opponents—including all of the GOP’s top presidential contenders—perpetuated untruths about the effects of both programs, they’ve refused to offer any alternatives to helping fix our current broken immigration system.

“Frankly, we are in this situation of having to wait for the Supreme Court to weigh in because Congress has been unable or unwilling to pass comprehensive reform. American families deserve relief and our country deserves better from our elected officials,” continued Murguía.

“Immigrants are a critical part of the fabric of this great nation; they are part of America and contribute significantly with their talents, hard work and economic power. It is unjust to have millions of American families living with a continued sense of fear that a spouse, family member or friend may disappear from their lives because our politicians refuse to do what is right,” Murguía concluded.

NCLR—the largest national Hispanic civil rights and advocacy organization in the United States—works to improve opportunities for Hispanic Americans. For more information on NCLR, please visit www.nclr.org or follow along on Facebook and Twitter.

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