

U.S. Senator Kamala Harris

PRESS RELEASE

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Harris, Feinstein, Lowenthal, Meng Lead Lawmakers in Oversight Letter to Administration on DACA Recipients' Ability to Travel Abroad

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Today, U.S. Senators Kamala D. Harris and Dianne Feinstein (both D-CA) and Representatives Alan Lowenthal (D-CA) and Grace Meng (D-NY) led a group of lawmakers in a bicameral letter urging the Department of Homeland Security and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services to explain and reconsider their position prohibiting DACA recipients from receiving advance parole to allow them to travel internationally for humanitarian, educational, and employment purposes. DACA recipients were previously permitted to travel internationally and subsequently return to the United States in order to visit sick and elderly family members, study, or work.

"USCIS' failure to continue to allow DACA recipients to apply for advance parole has cruelly denied them opportunities to address personal emergencies. Critical advance parole requests that USCIS has failed to consider include DACA recipients seeking to obtain specialized medical treatment, to visit a dying family member, or to attend funeral services of loved ones outside of the U.S.," **the lawmakers wrote.**

The lawmakers continued, "Denying DACA recipients an opportunity to travel internationally for study and work is detrimental not only to their personal and professional wellbeing but also undermines the strength of the American economy to which they are contributing their knowledge and skills."

In addition to Senators Harris and Feinstein and Representatives Lowenthal and Meng, the letter was signed by Senators Durbin (D-IL), Hirono (D-HI), Cortez Masto (D-NV), Booker (D-NJ), Udall (D-NM), Klobuchar (D-MN), Mendenez (D-NJ), Wyden (D-OR), Blumenthal (D-CT), Duckworth (D-IL), and Bennet (D-CO) and Representatives Holmes Norton (D-DC), Gomez (D-CA), Levin (D-CA), Carbajal (D-CA), Moore (D-WI), Meeks (D-NY), Vela (D-TX), Beyer (D-VA), Bonamici (D-OR), Soto (D-FL), Cisneros (D-CA), Brownley (D-CA), Pallone (D-NJ),

Espaillat (D-NY), Sánchez (D-CA), Davis (D-CA), Schakowsky (D-IL), Barragán (D-CA), Correa (D-CA), Levin (D-MI), and Grijalva (D-AZ).

PDF of the letter is available here

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For more info:

https://www.harris.senate.gov/news/press-releases/harris-feinstein-lowenthal-meng-lead-lawmakers-in-oversight-letter-to-administration-on-daca-recipients-ability-to-travel-abroad