



Archdiocese of Seattle Bishops Welcome Supreme Court Ruling on DACA

June 18, 2020 – It is with joyful hearts that we offer this statement regarding the Supreme Court’s ruling to uphold the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program. The Catholic Church welcomes the Supreme Court’s ruling as it supports our efforts to promote and protect the life and dignity of all people regardless of status.

DACA recipients are all around us and are valued members of our community. There are approximately 700,000 individuals living in the U.S. who currently have DACA status. They are in the pews next to us. They are working in our parishes and schools. They are parents raising children. They are university students. They are taxpayers and consumers who contribute billions of dollars to the economy every year. Thousands are young adults who are actively involved in various professional careers and living the American dream of building a better world for themselves and others. Thousands are working in the medical field, actively fighting the COVID-19 pandemic and caring for the sick.

The Catholic Church believes in the inherent human dignity of every person from conception until natural death and the Gospel imperative to protect the most vulnerable, including children. DACA recipients were brought to the United States as children and should be allowed to continue to manifest their God-given potential in the only country they have known as their home.

Today’s ruling upholds the value and worth of all DACA recipients and their families. It honors their immense contribution to our society. It protects them from losing their local vocations, livelihoods, family connections, and community networks, including faith communities.

As a Church committed to the value of life, we fully support today’s ruling. We further call upon government officials and all people of good will to support the passage of legislation that would protect DACA recipients from future attempts to remove them. We also call upon these same officials to pursue much-needed immigration reform to correct the many injustices and inequities that continue to be a part of our current system.

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