

**June 6, 2018**

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### **DACA/DREAM Act**

There has been a recent move in the House of Representatives to bring the DREAM Act along with three other bills to the House floor for a vote. On May 9, 2018, Rep. Carlos Curbelo (R-FL) introduced a [discharge petition](#) - which is a means of bringing a bill out of committee and to the floor for consideration without a report from the committee by "discharging" the committee from further consideration of a bill or resolution. This is a rarely used tactic, but some feel it is appropriate due to Congress' inability to reach a solution on this issue. The discharge petition needs to garner 218 signatures from Members of Congress, and to date it has 213 signatures.

In the federal courts, three judges have ordered the Trump administration to continue the DACA program. A lawsuit filed last month in Texas seeks to shut down the DACA program and may create a legal clash that could speed the issue's path to the Supreme Court. If Texas and six other states persuade a judge to issue a nationwide order barring the government from continuing DACA, that decision would conflict with existing judicial orders telling the government it must partially continue the program. That's the kind of conflict the Supreme Court generally steps in to address.

HACU will continue to pressure Congress to act quickly to pass the *DREAM Act of 2017*. If you have not done so already, we urge you to contact your members of Congress to act now to pass the Dream Act by [clicking here](#).

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### **Higher Education Act Reauthorization - PROSPER Act**

Last December, the House Committee on Education and the Workforce rushed through a partisan rewrite

of the Higher Education Act, the PROSPER Act, less than two weeks after introducing it. Since then, the bill has languished without a vote scheduled in the House.

Now there are signs that might be changing. Last week the House majority whip convened a meeting to discuss the bill as rumors swirl about a potential vote coming this month.

HACU and other education associations have many concerns with the bill, but three key points will have a very negative impact on Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs): 1) the authorization levels of HEA Title V funding would remain unchanged for another five years, in spite of the growth in the number of HSIs; 2) a 25% completion rate is being added as a criterion for eligibility for grants; and 3) the bill fails to reauthorize the HEA Title III-Part F, The HSI Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics and Articulation Programs, allowing this program to disappear after 2019. These would be bad policies for Hispanics in higher education, and bad policies for the future of the American economy.

Additional information about the bill can be found on the [HEA Issue Page](#). We encourage you to urge your Member of Congress to oppose the PROSPER Act by [clicking here](#).

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## **IN CASE YOU MISSED THIS:**

### **New HSI & Emerging HSI Data**

HACU, in coordination with Excelencia in Education, announced the latest Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs) and Emerging HSIs lists and Fact Sheet, based on 2016-17 enrollment data. That academic year saw an additional 20 institutions reach the 25 percent Hispanic FTE undergraduate enrollment threshold to become Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs). 2016-17 numbers show that 14% of all institutions of higher education (492 HSIs) enrolled 65% of all Hispanic undergraduates. Additionally, the number of Emerging HSIs, or colleges approaching the 25 percent Latino student enrollment threshold, also shows an upward trajectory from 323 to 333. [More>>](#)

Additional information including the HSI and Emerging HSI Lists can be found on the [About HSI issue page](#) on the Advocacy Center.

*Forward this Washington Update to a colleague or friend. Encourage them to [sign-up](#) and join the [Advocacy Center](#) to lend their voice of support for HSIs and Latino students.*