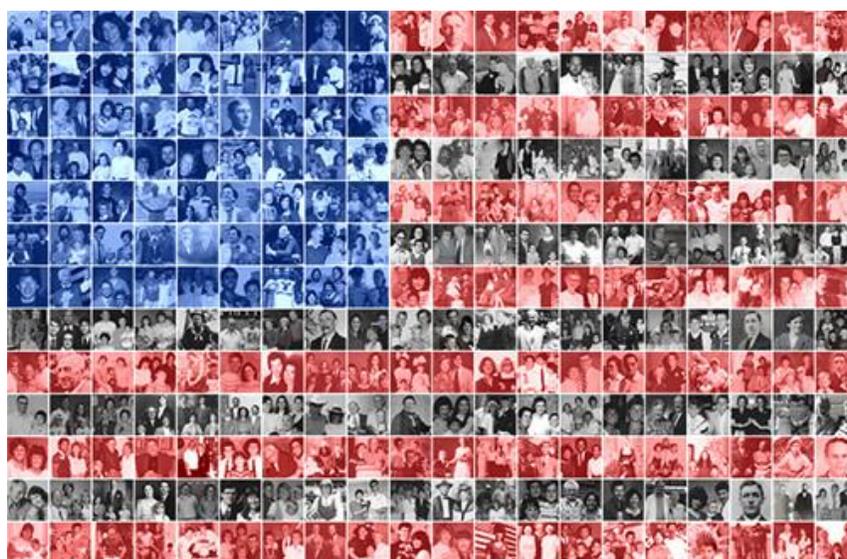


*September 25, 2017*

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### [Dream Act Update](#)

After the administration's announcement earlier this month to end the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, the Democratic leadership in the House of Representatives [announced](#) it would be using a "discharge petition" to force a vote on the Dream Act of 2017 (H.R. 3440). A discharge petition is a rarely used procedural tool under which members can bring a bill to the floor against leadership's wishes. The discharge petition is most often used by the minority party, and it requires the signature of a majority of members, 218 to be exact, to discharge a bill directly to the floor of the House of Representatives. The various representatives are able to sign onto the petition starting September 25.

*Important note for DACA recipients:* Individuals whose DACA status expires between September 5, 2017 and March 5, 2018, need to apply by October 5, 2017 to be considered for a two-year renewal. Additional information can be found on [USCIS' website](#).

If you have not done so already, please urge your members of Congress to support the Dream Act by [clicking here](#).

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### [Congressional HSI Caucus](#)

To date, HACU and its members have helped recruit 22 members to the new Congressional Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSI) Caucus. The HSI Caucus is an important tool and a way to engage with Members of Congress and their staff in a meaningful way about the importance and value of HSIs in their congressional districts and communities. Please contact your Member of Congress today and ask him/her to join the HSI Caucus by [clicking here](#), and you can see if your Representative is already a member of the HSI Caucus by visiting the [issue page](#) on the Advocacy Center.

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### [National Science Foundation HSI Program Update](#)

HACU's Government Relations team has been working with members of Congress to inquire on the status of the development of the new HSI program at the National Science Foundation (NSF) that was signed into law as part of the final FY2017 budget deal. The HSI program, funded at \$15 million, is intended to support STEM infrastructure development at HSIs that do typically receive high levels of NSF funding. Additionally, HACU's President & CEO, Dr. Antonio R. Flores, [met with NSF Director France A. Córdova](#), and [last month](#) presented HACU's recommendations for the NSF-HSI program to an advisory committee. For the latest information please visit the [NSF issue page](#).

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### [HACU's 31st Annual Conference](#)

Our annual conference in San Diego, CA is right around the corner: October 28-30, 2017. The theme of this year's conference is "Championing Hispanic Higher Education Success: Driving America's Prosperity." We hope you have registered and booked your hotel already as this is going to be HACU's largest conference to date! The GR team has organized the following three workshops that are focused specifically on policy and advocacy:

- HACU Government Relations Update: October 29, 2017 from 10:30 - 11:45 AM
- Federal Funding Opportunities for HSIs: October 29, 2017 from 2:00 - 3:15 PM
- HACU Advocacy Needs New Recruits: October 30, 2017 from 10:30 - 11:45 AM

For a full list of the workshops in the "Advocacy & Legislation" track visit please [click here](#). We hope to see you in San Diego! We also encourage you to use the hash tags: #HACU17 and #HSIs.

*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.*