

THE DREAM ACT IS A MORAL
ISSUE

(Mrs. NAPOLITANO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, in the 38th Congressional District of California, we have had many exceptional, bright students struggling because of their status.

Sam, a political science degree graduate, came to the United States at the age of 2.

Abe, a psychology major who would like to become a university professor.

Nate, another psychology major, aspires to be a psychologist. We need male psychologists.

John, a chemical engineering major whose mother recently became a citizen, got killed at a bus stop while waiting for the I-130 to have him become a citizen.

Robert, a civil engineering major, lives 34 miles away from college and travels at least 7 hours to and from school so he can get educated.

This is just a microcosm of the 800,000 youngsters who were brought to the United States as infants. It is a necessity for us to be able to ensure that these young people who have been trained and educated in the U.S. remain and become our own leaders of tomorrow.

DREAM Act is a moral issue. It is the right thing to do. We must pass the DREAM Act.

THE DREAM ACT

(Ms. CLARKE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. CLARKE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in full support of the DREAM Act.

The immigrant children and young adults that are affected by our broken immigration laws are as diverse as this country. My district, the 11th Congressional district of New York, is home to a significant and diverse immigrant population. According to the Census Bureau, 47 percent of the immigrant population that settled in my district between 1980 and 2008 has yet to obtain naturalized citizenship. Many of those individuals are documented legal residents and some are not.

With such a large population, my office has been inundated with instances of young people who are either facing the threat of deportation to a country they have never known or had no choice in leaving, or they are forced into an immigration purgatory where by the opportunities to obtain higher education and gainful employment are curtailed by the immigrant status. Many of these young people have considered themselves Americans, having never truly known their land of birth.

We cannot delay passing the DREAM Act any longer. We cannot continue to punish a community of young people that came to this country at no fault

of their own. Many communities across this Nation have nurtured these young people.

I support the DREAM Act, and urge my colleagues to do the same.

THE DREAM ACT

(Mr. PAYNE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, the DREAM Act would not only benefit undocumented students, but it would benefit the country as well. It is estimated that about 65,000 undocumented students graduate from high school after living in the United States for at least 5 years. Unfortunately, because of current law, only five to 10 percent of these students attend college. The remaining 90 to 95 percent remain unable to find employment appropriate to their level of academic potential, and become victims of the criminal justice and social welfare system.

Earlier this year, my home State of New Jersey passed a State version of this law recognizing that these students deserve to be rewarded for their hard work and allowed opportunity just as their peers. Furthermore, acknowledging the fact that more than 40 percent of the State's scientists and engineers with advanced degrees were foreign born in 2006, the economic benefit was taken into account. It was understood that, beyond this measure being morally just, it is an economic measure as well.

I ask that we support the DREAM Act.

THE DREAM ACT

(Mr. ORTIZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to offer my unconditional and complete support for the American DREAM Act.

This bill is intended to address the situation faced by such young people among us who were brought to the United States years ago as undocumented immigrant children. In fact, some of these children didn't even know that they were born in a foreign country.

These children have grown up and stayed here, stayed in school. They kept out of trouble. They dream of becoming a full-fledged American, but are prevented from doing so because they lack the legal status. The American DREAM Act would provide an avenue for these young people to acquire legal status, pursue a college degree or join the military, and give back to the communities and to the country that they consider home.

I've worked with these students. I represent a border State. These children are intelligent. They're smart and, not only that, they love this country.

As a veteran and as a member of the House Armed Services Committee, I

recognize the benefits that the DREAM Act can bring to this Nation. And I would ask my colleagues to support this bill. This is a good bill.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

SENIORS PROTECTION ACT OF 2010

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5987) to ensure that seniors, veterans, and people with disabilities who receive Social Security and certain other Federal benefits receive a one-time \$250 payment in the event that no cost-of-living adjustment is payable in 2011, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5987

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Seniors Protection Act of 2010".

SEC. 2. PAYMENT IN LIEU OF A COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT TO RECIPIENTS OF SOCIAL SECURITY, SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME, RAILROAD RETIREMENT BENEFITS, AND VETERANS DISABILITY COMPENSATION OR PENSION BENEFITS.

(a) AUTHORITY TO MAKE PAYMENTS.—

(1) ELIGIBILITY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (5)(B), the Secretary of the Treasury shall disburse a \$250 payment to each individual who, for any month during the 3-month period ending with the month which ends prior to the month that includes the date of the enactment of this Act, is entitled to a benefit payment described in clause (i), (ii), or (iii) of subparagraph (B) or is eligible for a SSI cash benefit described in subparagraph (C). In the case of an individual who is eligible for a payment under this subparagraph by reason of entitlement to a benefit described in subparagraph (B)(i), no such payment shall be made to such individual unless such individual was paid a benefit described in such subparagraph (B)(i) for any month in the 12-month period ending with the month which ends prior to the month that includes the date of the enactment of this Act.

(B) BENEFIT PAYMENT DESCRIBED.—For purposes of subparagraph (A):

(i) TITLE II BENEFIT.—A benefit payment described in this clause is a monthly insurance benefit payable (without regard to sections 202(j)(1) and 223(b) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 402(j)(1), 423(b)) under—

(I) section 202(a) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 402(a));

(II) section 202(b) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 402(b));

(III) section 202(c) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 402(c));

(IV) section 202(d)(1)(B)(ii) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 402(d)(1)(B)(ii));