Purple DREAMER Letters Campaign

Supporting a CLEAN DREAM Act

**OSU Here To Stay**

**What is a CLEAN DREAM Act?**

A clean DREAM Act is not the actual name of a bill or piece of legislation but it refers to any legislation regarding previous DACA recipients, the DREAM Act, or undocumented folks in general. We refer to supporting a CLEAN DREAM Act because we want to make sure this legislation is going to be clean in the sense that it will not be attacking other undocumented folks in exchange for supporting a DREAM Act. For example: We do NOT support legislation that provides pathways to citizenship to young undocumented folks which would at the same time increase ICE raids which would attack older undocumented folks).

**What is it?**

Purple DREAMERS Letters campaign is meant to collect letters in support of a CLEAN DREAM Act. These letters will be collected and sent to Representative Greg Walden. Letters should be supporting CLEAN DREAM Act and should be addressed to Greg Walden.

**Why Greg Walden?**

We are sending these letters to Rep. Greg Walden from Eastern Oregon because he is the only representative in the state of Oregon who has not declared his support for a CLEAN DREAM Act. His (yes) vote can help lead to passing legislation around a CLEAN DREAM Act. His (yes) vote can also help influence other representatives whose (yes) votes are needed in order to pass legislation. Other Representatives in Oregon who have pledged their YES vote include: Blumenhaur, Bonamici, Shrader, Defazio. Senators Wyden and Merkley have also pledged their YES vote.

**How will letters be collected?**

Folks who want to show their support can write a hand written letter or type a letter and send it to Priscila Narcio at narciop@oregonstate.edu. Letters will be collected, copied, and printed, and sent to multiple addresses and will also be emailed to Greg Walden and his staff.

**Why purple?**

Letters will be collected and placed into purple envelopes for two reasons:

1. Purple is a color which represents hope… hope in legislation that protects and provides opportunities for undocumented youth which also respects the rights and dignity of older undocumented folks.
2. We want these letters to stand out when they are sent to Greg Walden so that he and his staff know what these letters are about before they even open them.

**What is the timeline?**

Advocacy organizations aim to pass legislation by December 8th, 2017, when the federal budget is due.

**What else can be done?**

You can call Greg Walden’s offices and ask him to support a CLEAN DREAM Act. You can also call your own representatives to ask them to continue supporting a CLEAN DREAM Act.

### **Greg Walden’s Office Location**

**Medford Office Bend Office**

14 N. Central Ave. Suite 112 1051 NW Bond St, Suite 400

Medford, OR 97501 Bend, OR 97701

Phone: (541) 776-4646 Phone: (541) 389-4408

 Fax: (541) 389-4452

**La Grande Office**

1211 Washington Avenue

La Grande, OR 97850

Phone: (541) 624-2400

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| **NEW! Oregon State University – Here to Stay Student Group**The Here to Stay student group is doing advocacy for undocumented and DACA-mented students.If you are interested in helping with our cause to do advocacy to pass a CLEAN Dream Act to help the future of students, please come and join us.For more information on our gatherings please email Priscila Narcio at narciop@oregonstate.edu or call/text 503.409.0353 |

Template:

Oregon State University

Corvallis, OR

Dear Rep. Greg Walden,

My name is **(name OR anonymous)** and I am from **(city, zipcode)**. I am a **(student/staff/community member/ally)** and I urge you to support a CLEAN Dream Act bill.

*If you feel comfortable sharing*: I am an **(undocumented/dacamented)** DREAMER and I stand behind other undocumented folks throughout Oregon.

I stand with dreamers because **(add your history, insight, thoughts, experiences, and reasoning why. Why is the Dream Act beneficial?)**

10/31/2017

Greg Walden,

I am writing this letter in support of a CLEAN DREAM Act and most importantly in support of undocumented communities in Oregon and throughout this country. I want to urge you to vote YES on a CLEAN DREAM Act in December. Your YES vote can help us reach the amount of supportive representatives needed to pass a CLEAN DREAM Act and it can send a message to people throughout Oregon and the rest of the country your support for ALL individuals rights to the pursuit of happiness. I also ask you to think about the undocumented folks that are currently in your district. Eastern Oregon, especially areas like Hood River, Hermiston, and other cities, have large agricultural areas that are tended to by undocumented folks and other immigrants. Historically, Oregon has had a huge amount of immigrants take care of its land and its crops. The contributions by immigrants have and continue to be very important to Oregon.

I know this for a couple of reasons. One reason is my grandfather worked in Oregon’s agricultural fields between 1950-2000s through the Bracero program and then through applying for permanent residency status. He has contributed tremendously to Oregon’s economy through his decades of work. My parents have also emmigrated to Oregon since the early 90s and have up to this point spent over half of their time in the United States working in the fields or in canneries like NORPAC which produce and distribute food throughout the country. My parents are immigrants who have also contributed to this state both by helping tend to fields and tend to crops but by paying taxes. Although they no longer work in agriculture, they continue to pay taxes which are used to maintain our state’s infrastructure and services. My father started his journey in Oregon working in the fields, chopping christmas trees in stormy weather, and he has even spent several summers fighting wildfires to protect cities and national forests in Oregon and throughout the Pacific Northwest. My father had the fortune and privilege of being able to apply for his citizenship and it is something I am eternally grateful for because our family does not have to fear he will be uprooted from his family, home, and community.

I have other friends and family who are also great individuals who have contributed to their communities much like my father has. They have not had the fortune of being able to become documented due to the incredibly difficult and expensive process of gaining documented status (my mother has spent thousands and thousands of dollars trying to become a US citizen and has not been able to become a citizen). My father is an amazing individual but I am not so sure what separates him from other folks who work hard like him who don’t have documentation. My father was raised in Mexico and still has family there so perhaps he wouldn’t suffer so much would he be in a situation where he becomes deported. But what about my friends and family who were born in Mexico but raised in the United States? What about folks whose family all managed to make it to the US so they have no family left in Mexico?

There are folks here in Oregon, both in my district and in your district, who have built their lives here. Folks who have established themselves in their communities. Folks who pay into taxes and other social services in their communities. They deserve the opportunity to stay here and to continue living their lives like everyone else. They deserve to be able to go home to their parents, who may be a lot like my parents minus documented status.

This is why I continue to urge you to vote YES for a CLEAN DREAM Act.

Thank you.

Luis Cisneros | 97070

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