

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

April 9, 2026

The Honorable Markwayne Mullin
Secretary
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
2707 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave. SE
Washington, DC 20528

The Honorable Joseph B. Edlow
Director
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
5900 Capital Gateway Dr.
Camp Springs, MD 20746

Secretary Mullin and Director Edlow,

We write with grave concern about the delays by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) in processing renewal requests for people with Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) status. These unacceptable delays leave DACA recipients' cases pending for extended periods, preventing them from maintaining valid work authorization and putting their employment at risk. As a result, they face significant financial and emotional distress and are left vulnerable to unemployment, detention, and removal due to the lack of proper documentation.

DACA has allowed hundreds of thousands of Dreamers to live and work in the only country they have ever known. They are required to comply with the program's stringent requirements, including continuous residence in the U.S. since June 2007, limited or no criminal history, biographic and biometric background checks, and an assessment by the federal government that they do not pose a threat to national security or public safety. They are valued community members who work hard, pay taxes, and support their families. They follow the rules and submit renewal requests for deferred action status and employment authorization documents (EAD) every two years.

Over the past year, we have seen a sharp increase in processing times for our constituents' DACA and EAD renewal requests. The USCIS website currently indicates that 80 percent of requests are completed within 3.5 months, however our casework teams routinely handle cases with requests pending for over 6 months. Importantly, many of these individuals have complied fully with renewal guidance by submitting their applications well in advance of their expiration dates. Despite this, prolonged processing times are resulting in gaps in the validity of their EADs. These delays are particularly harmful given that many DACA recipients are employed in critical sectors, including nursing, education, construction, and other essential industries, where interruptions in employment can have significant consequences not only for the individuals and their families, but also for the communities and local economies that rely on their contributions.

DACA recipients work hard and provide for their families, and contribute billions of dollars to key economic sectors. But because of USCIS's processing delays, they are losing their jobs even though their employers want to keep them on, struggling to make ends meet, and facing detention and removal—threats compounded by the Department of Homeland Security's

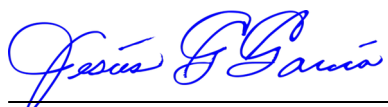
(DHS) ongoing enforcement actions against current DACA recipients, and by USCIS's interim final rule ending automatic EAD extensions.

These delays are unacceptable, and we urge you to address this urgent situation by expediting processing for DACA recipients. We also request a response to the following questions by April 22, 2026:

1. What is USCIS's average processing time for all DACA renewal requests (Form I-821D) since October 1, 2025?
2. What is USCIS's average processing time for all EAD renewal requests (Form I-765) for current DACA recipients since October 1, 2025?
3. What changes, if any, has USCIS made to its policies, procedures, and guidance regarding DACA/EAD renewal requests since January 20, 2025?
4. To what extent have processing times for EAD renewal requests for current DACA recipients increased since USCIS issued its October 30, 2025 Interim Final Rule ending automatic EAD extensions for timely renewals?
5. To what extent has the decrease in Congressional appropriations for application processing by USCIS contributed to increased processing times for DACA and EAD renewal requests?
6. What steps, if any, are DHS and USCIS leaders planning to take to reduce the backlog of DACA and EAD renewal requests, and ensure that timely filed renewal applicants do not experience lapses in employment authorization? What is the timeline for implementing these steps?
7. Is USCIS refusing to process renewal requests by applicants from countries listed in Presidential Proclamations 10949 and 10998?
8. What information, if any, does USCIS share with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) regarding individuals' DACA expiration dates and status of their renewal requests?
9. How many individuals with DACA renewal pending have been detained?
 - a. How many remain in immigration custody?
 - b. How many have been removed?

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



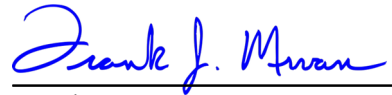
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J. Luis Correa
Member of Congress



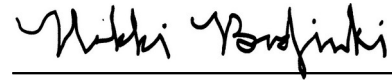
Ilhan Omar
Member of Congress



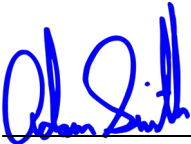
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Nikki Budzinski
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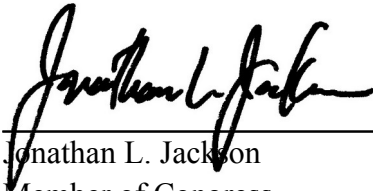
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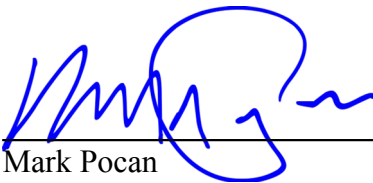
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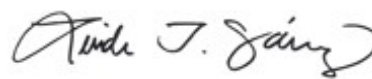
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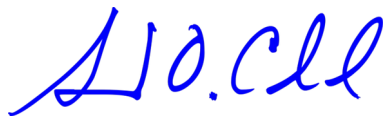
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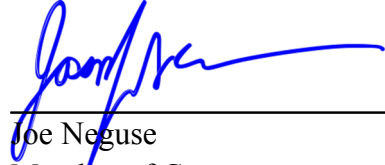
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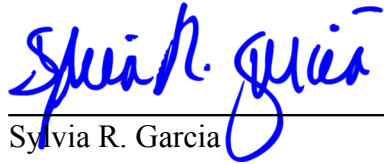
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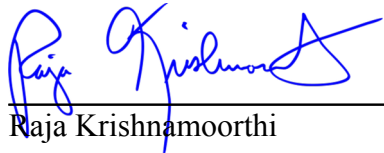
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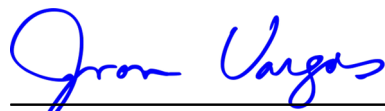
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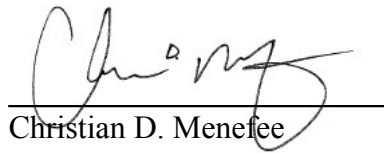
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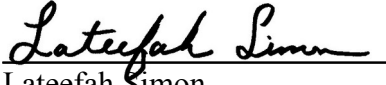
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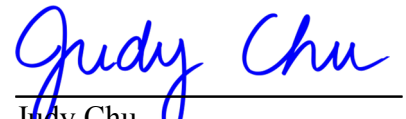


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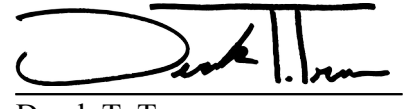


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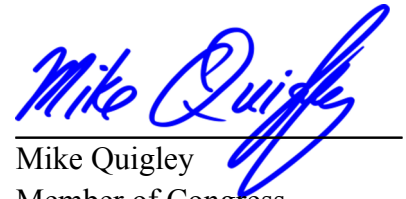

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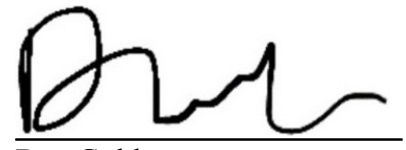

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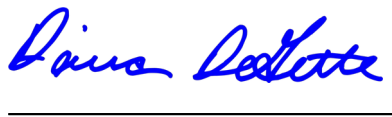

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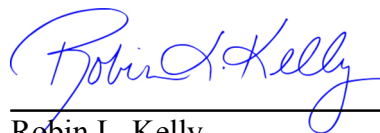

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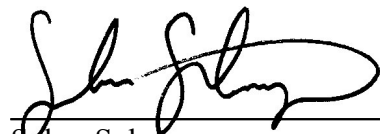
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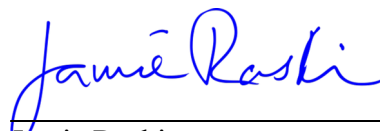
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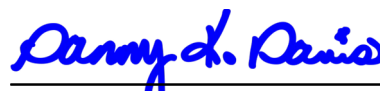
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Andre Carson
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Dina Titus
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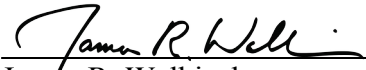
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Joyce Beatty
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Grace Meng
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James P. McGovern
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Debbie Wasserman Schultz
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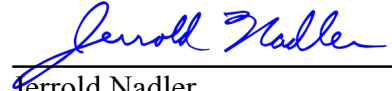
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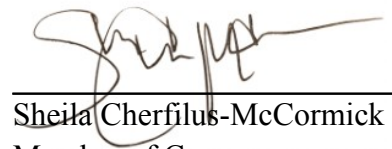
Mike Thompson
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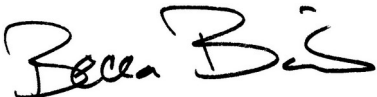
Shontel M. Brown
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Betty McCollum
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Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick
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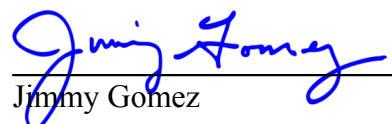
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Kathy Castor
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