



RICE UNIVERSITY
STUDENT ASSOCIATION

Resolution #4
of the 2016-2017 Session

To Support the Passage of the BRIDGE Act

Introduced by

ANTONIA IYER, Director of Government Relations, 2016-2017
GRIFFIN THOMAS, Student Association President, 2016-2017
Monday, February 13, 2017

Passed on

Monday, February 27, 2017
GRIFFIN THOMAS, Student Association President, 2016-2017
Presiding Officer

Whereas, The purpose of the Student Association includes “foster[ing] the recognition of the rights and responsibilities of students with respect to humanity, the community, and the university”;

Whereas, The administration of Rice University supports the opportunity for all students to finish their studies and pursue their academic goals without fear of discrimination or persecution;

Whereas, President Leebron and the Association of American Universities have stated that “DACA should be upheld, continued, and expanded” as both “a moral imperative and a national necessity”;

Whereas, The future of the continuation of DACA, a federal executive order, faces potential repeal by the Trump administration;

Whereas, The Center for American Progress conducted a nationwide survey that demonstrates positive and concrete benefits to DACA recipients, finding that, due to DACA:¹

- individuals’ average hourly wages increased by more than 40 percent
- 70 percent of respondents are pursuing a Bachelor’s degree

¹ Wong et al., “New Study of DACA Beneficiaries Shows Positive Economic and Educational Outcomes”, (Center for American Progress, October 18, 2016).

- 21 percent of respondents work in educational or health fields
- half of respondents have purchased a car and 12 percent have purchased their first house;

Whereas, The Bridge Act, a federal bill introduced by Senator Graham and Senator Durbin, allows those who meet certain requirements (the same required in DACA) to receive “provisional protected presence” and work authorization for a three-year period, as well as impose restrictions on information shared with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and U.S. Customs and Border Protection; and

Whereas, This is a bipartisan bill which encompasses the shared values reflected amongst Rice students with varied ideologies; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Student Association stands in support of current protections put in place by the DACA initiative; and

Resolved, That the Student Association supports the passing of the Bridge Act in a timely manner, considering the contentious status of DACA.

