

make that pivotal time an important time, a successful time, and one where we are brought together to work as colleagues, rather than as opponents, which it has been far too much, as far as I am concerned, over the last number of years.

I hope that we can all get together and do a better job for America.

I yield the floor

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Pennsylvania.

DACA

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I rise today to speak for just a few minutes about the Dreamers in our country, the young people about whom we have had a debate recently and will continue to debate about with regard to the so-called Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Program, known by the acronym DACA.

The United States is a proud nation of immigrants, and ending this program does not make sense either morally or in terms of our economy. Rescinding the program will cost the United States jobs. It will hurt our national security, and it is a total betrayal of the trust of the Federal Government.

Dreamers are young people who have lived in our country for a long time, since they were children. They have been law-abiding residents, they have learned English, and they pay taxes. They have secured jobs that support themselves and their families.

Our Government promised them that they would be protected if they came forward, and now the administration is breaking that promise. President Trump's actions with regard to DACA are an insult to America and are an insult to American values. This action is unjust, it is immoral, and it is without regard for basic fairness. Tearing apart the lives of these young people will make our Nation less safe and will harm our economy.

Ending DACA also does not make sense financially. In Pennsylvania alone, estimates are that ending DACA would cost Pennsylvania \$357 million per year in GDP losses. Nationwide, the number is \$460 billion from the GDP over the next decade. Ending DACA would remove approximately 685,000 workers from the U.S. economy. According to the Cato Institute, deporting DACA residents would cost more than \$60 billion. Finally, the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy estimates that 1.3 million young people enrolled in or eligible for DACA pay some \$2 billion each year in State and local taxes.

Let me just share one story of many about a Dreamer that I met. In this case, it was back in April of this year. I was proud to meet with this individual from Lancaster. Her name is Audrey Lopez. Audrey is one of those Dreamers. She came to the United States as a child with her parents, who were seeking a better life for her and

for her family. She grew up in Pennsylvania and graduated from college. The United States is the only home she knows.

When I met Audrey, she was worried about the debate about immigration and immigration policy. The debate that we have been having in Washington mostly since January of this year was causing great fear and uncertainty in her community. Audrey is obviously concerned about the immigration debate and, in particular, what happens with DACA.

She has worked with Church World Services, an organization that helps resettle hundreds of refugees each year in Pennsylvania. They provide services to help new arrivals adjust to their new home and become successful members of their local neighborhoods.

Audrey is now a student at American University, pursuing her master's degree in international development—of course, after getting a college education as well.

This is America. This is who we are as a nation, where young people like Audrey have a chance to work hard and to succeed, to get an education and to contribute to the American economy and to the fabric of our society. We are a country in which hard-working young people who are working to better themselves and their community are given a chance to do so, in a sense, fulfilling or living that dream.

This program, DACA, has allowed almost 800,000 young people whose stories are very similar to Audrey's to grow up and thrive in America. It makes no sense to heartlessly remove Dreamers from a country they call home.

In response to President Trump's decision to end DACA, Congress should move immediately to pass a bipartisan Dream Act. This bill will allow Dreamers to become permanent residents if they meet the very stringent qualifications outlined in the bill. In Pennsylvania alone, 5,900 people have been granted DACA status. Passing the Dream Act will give these people the security they need and a future they can count on. We should be focused on humane and commonsense solutions that keep our Nation safe and allow it to thrive. I was proud to vote for the DREAM Act in 2007 and 2010. I hope we will have a clean vote on the Dream Act very soon.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. FISCHER). Without objection, it is so ordered.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

REINFORCING EDUCATION ACCOUNTABILITY IN DEVELOPMENT ACT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of the House message to accompany H.R. 601, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

House message to accompany H.R. 601, a bill to enhance the transparency and accelerate the impact of assistance provided under the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to promote quality basic education in developing countries, to better enable such countries to achieve universal access to quality basic education and improved learning outcomes, to eliminate duplication and waste, and for other purposes.

Pending:

McConnell motion to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment (No. 6) to the bill with McConnell amendment No. 808 (to the House amendment to the Senate amendment (No. 6) to the bill), in the nature of a substitute.

McConnell amendment No. 809 (to amendment No. 808), to change the enactment date.

MOTION TO REFER WITH AMENDMENT NO. 816

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I move to refer the House message on H.R. 601 to the Committee on Appropriations with instructions to report back forthwith with the Paul amendment No. 816.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. MCCONNELL] moves to refer the House message to accompany H.R. 601 to the Committee on Appropriations with instructions to report the same back forthwith to the Senate with an amendment numbered 816.

The amendment is as follows:

At the end add the following:

Notwithstanding any other provision in this Act:

(1) no supplemental appropriation shall be made to the "Community Development Fund";

(2) the "Disaster Relief Fund" shall be increased by \$7,400,000,000,

(3) \$15,250,000,000 of unobligated funds previously made available to the United States Agency for International Development shall be rescinded; and

(4) The emergency designations in Division B in this Act shall have no force or effect.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask for the yeas and nays on my motion.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 817

Mr. MCCONNELL. I have an amendment to the instructions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. MCCONNELL] proposes an amendment numbered 817 to the instructions of the motion to refer.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.