

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

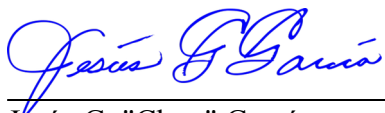
(DHS) ongoing enforcement actions against current DACA recipients, and by USCIS's interim final rule ending automatic EAD extensions.

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,



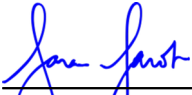
Jesús G. "Chuy" García
Member of Congress



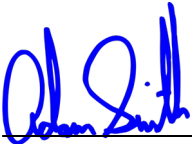
J. Luis Correa
Member of Congress



Ilhan Omar
Member of Congress



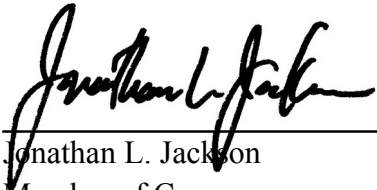
Sara Jacobs
Member of Congress



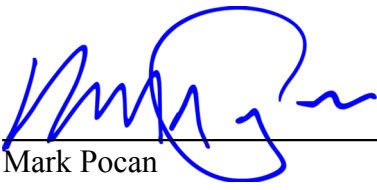
Adam Smith
Member of Congress



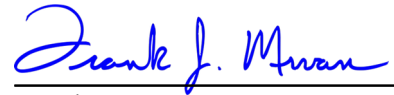
Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress



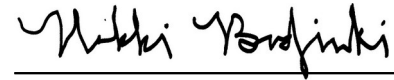
Jonathan L. Jackson
Member of Congress



Mark Pocan
Member of Congress



Frank J. Mrvan
Member of Congress



Nikki Budzinski
Member of Congress



Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.
Member of Congress



Jasmine Crockett
Member of Congress



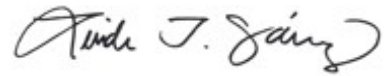
Sydney Kamlager-Dove
Member of Congress



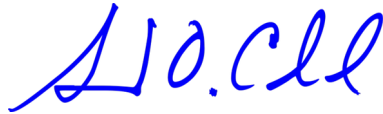
Nanette Diaz Barragan
Member of Congress



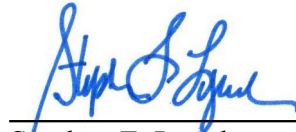
Delia C. Ramirez
Member of Congress



Linda T. Sánchez
Member of Congress



Salud Carbajal
Member of Congress



Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress



Paul D. Tonko
Member of Congress



Rashida Tlaib
Member of Congress



Marc A. Veasey
Member of Congress



Yvette D. Clarke
Member of Congress




Scott H. Peters
Member of Congress



Greg Stanton
Member of Congress



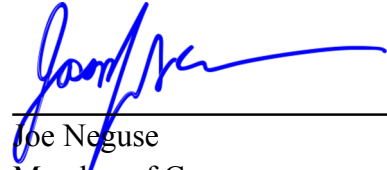
Deborah K. Ross
Member of Congress




Alma S. Adams, Ph.D.
Member of Congress



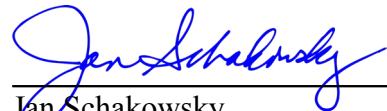
Nancy Pelosi
Member of Congress



Joe Neguse
Member of Congress



Sylvia R. Garcia
Member of Congress



Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress



Gwen S. Moore
Member of Congress



Sarah McBride
Member of Congress



Raja Krishnamoorthi
Member of Congress



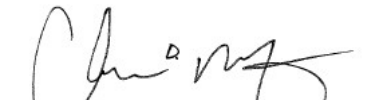
Juan Vargas
Member of Congress



Bonnie Watson Coleman
Member of Congress



Andrea Salinas
Member of Congress



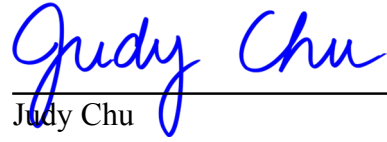
Christian D. Menefee
Member of Congress



Pramila Jayapal
Member of Congress



Lateefah Simon
Member of Congress



Judy Chu
Member of Congress



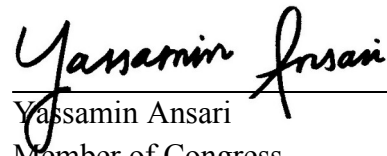
Nellie Pou
Member of Congress



Derek T. Tran
Member of Congress



Veronica Escobar
Member of Congress



Yassamin Ansari
Member of Congress



Ritchie Torres
Member of Congress



Mike Quigley
Member of Congress



Lizzie Fletcher
Member of Congress



Dan Goldman
Member of Congress



Diana DeGette
Member of Congress



Shri Thanedar
Member of Congress



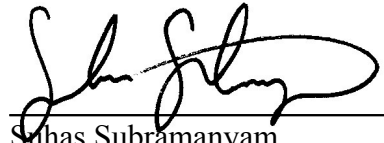
Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress



Robin L. Kelly
Member of Congress



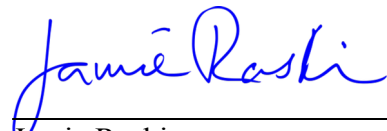
Maxine Dexter
Member of Congress



Suhas Subramanyam
Member of Congress



Greg Casar
Member of Congress



Jamie Raskin
Member of Congress



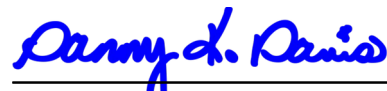
Luz M. Rivas
Member of Congress



Gabe Amo
Member of Congress



Pete Aguilar
Member of Congress



Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress



Frederica S. Wilson
Member of Congress



John B. Larson
Member of Congress



Andre Carson
Member of Congress



Dina Titus
Member of Congress



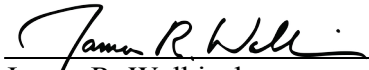
Jason Crow
Member of Congress



Ami Bera, M.D.
Member of Congress



Dwight Evans
Member of Congress



James R. Walkinshaw
Member of Congress



Joyce Beatty
Member of Congress



Grace Meng
Member of Congress



James P. McGovern
Member of Congress



Debbie Wasserman Schultz
Member of Congress



Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress



Darren Soto
Member of Congress



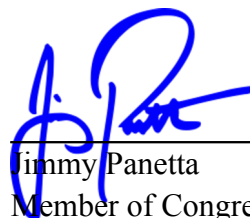
Lauren Underwood
Member of Congress



Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress



Adelta S. Grijalva
Member of Congress



Jimmy Panetta
Member of Congress



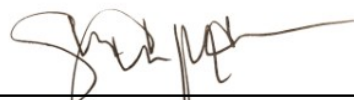
Mike Thompson
Member of Congress



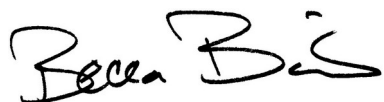
Shontel M. Brown
Member of Congress



Betty McCollum
Member of Congress



Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick
Member of Congress



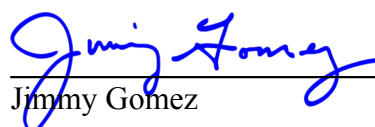
Becca Balint
Member of Congress



Eric Swalwell
Member of Congress



Emanuel Cleaver, II
Member of Congress



Jimmy Gomez
Member of Congress

Lois Frankel

Lois Frankel
Member of Congress

Kathy Castor

Kathy Castor
Member of Congress