



The US Senate is expected to vote on the DREAM act tomorrow, Wednesday, October 24. Bishop Wenski of the Diocese of Orlando is a vocal supporter of the DREAM act has stated:

"The DREAM act, which stands for the Development Relief and Education for Alien Minors Act would allow immigrant students who have grown up in the U.S., graduated from high school here, and can demonstrate good moral character to qualify for "conditional lawful permanent resident" status, which would normally last for six years. During the conditional period, the immigrant would be required to go to college, join the military, or work a significant number of hours of community service. At the end of the conditional period, those who meet at least one of these requirements would be eligible for regular lawful permanent-resident status.

If enacted, the Dream Act would have a life-changing impact on the students who qualify. And not only on the qualifying students, but all of American society would benefit as the success stories of earlier generations of child immigrants -- like the Cuban children of the 1960s Operation "Pedro Pan" have amply demonstrated. These children talk like Americans -- in perfect U.S. accents; they think like Americans -- sometimes to the consternation of their parents; they certainly eat like Americans." (Quoted from an opinion submitted to the Orlando Sentinel).

TCC is requesting that you contact Senators Cornyn and Hutchison today to state your support for the Dream Act.

A sample message is: Please vote FOR the DREAM Act (S. 774), a bipartisan piece of legislation sponsored by Senators Durbin (D-IL), Hagel (R-NE), and Lugar (R-IN). The DREAM Act provides a 6-year path to legal status for individuals who were brought to the U.S. years ago as undocumented children and who have stayed in school and out of trouble. This year, about 65,000 of these young people will graduate from high school. These graduates cannot put their lives on hold while Congress debates, so the DREAM Act must pass now, not next year or the year after that. So please SUPPORT this important legislation.

To contact **Senator Cornyn** call (202) 224-2934 or click [here](#) to find a local number. To email him, click [here](#).

To contact **Senator Hutchison** call (202) 224-5922 or click [here](#) and scroll to the bottom of the page to find a local number. To email her, click [here](#).

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