

AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Resolution: 1
(I-18)

Introduced by: International Medical Graduates Section

Subject: Legalization of the Deferred Action for Legal Childhood Arrival (DALCA)

Referred to: Reference Committee _____
(_____, Chair)

1 Whereas, AMA has supported legalization of the Deferred Action for Early Childhood Arrival (DACA)
2 children brought to this country illegally by their parents; and
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4 Whereas, AMA has supported reducing the backlog of granting of green cards for permanent residency
5 which sometimes has been delayed for several years. This delay leads to their children turning 21 years
6 of age and thus becoming illegal; and
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8 Whereas, There are thousands of children who arrived in this country with their parents legally, however
9 once they turn 21 years of age they automatically become illegal. They are then called DALCA (Deferred
10 Action for Legal Childhood Arrival); and
11

12 Whereas, There are 80,000-100,000 children that fall into this category; and
13

14 Whereas, Many of these DALCA children are in medical schools or have already graduated from U.S.
15 medical schools, but are subject to deportation because they are considered illegals. Many of these
16 DALCA children have matched in residency programs but have been held back due to their lack of proper
17 legal status; and
18

19 Whereas, There is bipartisan support in Congress for these children which has not garnered media
20 headlines; therefore, be it
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22 RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association support legalization of the Deferred Action for Legal
23 Childhood Arrival (DALCA); (Directive to Take Action) and be it
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25 RESOLVED, That our AMA work with the appropriate agencies to allow DALCA children to start and
26 finish medical school for and/or residency training until these DALCA children have officially become
27 legal. (Directive to Take Action)

References:

"Consideration of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DALCA)"

"Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals: Response to January 2018 Preliminary Injunction"

<https://www.uscis.gov/humanitarian/deferred-action-childhood-arrivals-response-january-2018-preliminary-injunction>

"Exercising Prosecutorial Discretion with Respect to Individuals Who Came to the United States as Children Memorandum,"
June 15, 2012, <https://www.dhs.gov/xlibrary/assets/s1-exercising-prosecutorial-discretion-individuals-who-came-to-us-as-children.pdf>

AMA Relevant Policy

Impact of Immigration Barriers on the Nation's Health D-255.980

1. Our AMA recognizes the valuable contributions and affirms our support of international medical students and international medical graduates and their participation in U.S. medical schools, residency and fellowship training programs and in the practice of medicine.
 2. Our AMA will oppose laws and regulations that would broadly deny entry or re-entry to the United States of persons who currently have legal visas, including permanent resident status (green card) and student visas, based on their country of origin and/or religion.
 3. Our AMA will oppose policies that would broadly deny issuance of legal visas to persons based on their country of origin and/or religion.
 4. Our AMA will advocate for the immediate reinstatement of premium processing of H-1B visas for physicians and trainees to prevent any negative impact on patient care.
 5. Our AMA will advocate for the timely processing of visas for all physicians, including residents, fellows, and physicians in independent practice.
 6. Our AMA will work with other stakeholders to study the current impact of immigration reform efforts on residency and fellowship programs, physician supply, and timely access of patients to health care throughout the U.S.
- (Alt. Res. 308, A-17; Modified: CME Rep. 01, A-18)

Evaluation of DACA-Eligible Medical Students, Residents and Physicians in Addressing Physician Shortages D-350.986

1. Our American Medical Association will study the issue of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals-eligible medical students, residents, and physicians and consider the opportunities for their participation in the physician profession and report its findings to the House of Delegates.
 2. Our AMA will issue a statement in support of current US healthcare professionals, including those currently training as medical students or residents and fellows, who are Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals recipients.
- (Res. 305, A-15; Appended: Late Res. 1001, I-16)