

McCain-Coons Uniting and Securing America (U.S.A.) Act

Solution for the Dreamers:

- Members of both parties agree that we need to give legal certainty to the 1.8 million Dreamers, who are American in every way except documentation.
- This bill ensures that individuals brought to this country as children (under 18) and present in the U.S. since Dec. 31, 2013 can live, work, go to school, and serve in the military (nearly 900 Dreamers are currently serving) legally and without fear.
- This bill gives Dreamers Conditional Permanent Residence if they have DACA or meet the qualifications, which include passing a background check, getting an education, and not committing federal or state offenses adding to a year or more imprisonment. Dreamers who continue to play by the rules by going to school, serving in the military, or maintaining consistent employment can become Lawful Permanent Residents and, a minimum of five years later, U.S. citizens.

Security for the Border:

Improves Infrastructure, Technology, and Strategic Planning:

- This bill mandates situational awareness and operational control of the border by 2020. It requires a comprehensive border strategy, encompassing all known physical barriers, levees, technologies, tools, or other devices that can be used to achieve the above goals along with a justification, including a cost analysis for each linear mile of the border. It requires DHS to increase the number of annual flight hours of U.S. Customs and Border Protection's Air and Marine Operations and utilize Unmanned Aerial Systems.
- The bill authorizes construction of new ports of entry along the northern and southern borders and requires a plan to expand inspection lanes at high volume southern border ports of entry.
- It authorizes \$110M per year for five years to increase coordination and collaboration between CBP and state and local law enforcement entities that support border security operations. It also establishes a new emergency services grant program.

Enhances Efficiency for Immigration Courts:

- This bill adds 55 new immigration judges and 23 staff attorneys each year for three years to reduce immigration court backlogs.
- It also improves training and technology to increase the efficiency of proceedings.
- It requires the Executive Office for Immigration Review to modernize its case management and related electronic systems, including allowing for electronic filing, to improve the processing of immigration proceedings.

Supports Addressing Root Causes of Migration in Central America:

- This bill mandates coordination of federal and international efforts to strengthen the rule of law and economic prosperity in Central America.
- It requires the Department of State to submit a three-year strategy to secure international and regional support for the Plan of the Alliance for Prosperity in the Northern Triangle.
- It allows the Millennium Challenge Corporation to fund concurrent compacts for regional economic integration or cross-border collaboration.

Strong, Bipartisan Support:

- Senator John McCain (R-Ariz.) is a decorated veteran, former POW, and Chair of the Armed Services Committee. During his 35 years in Congress, Senator McCain has been a leader on immigration reform and support for our military. Senator Chris Coons (D-Del.) is known for reaching across the aisle to find common ground.
- This bill was introduced in the House less than one month ago by Republican Congressman Will Hurd -- whose district includes 800 miles of the southern border -- and Democratic Congressman Pete Aguilar -- the Congressional Hispanic Caucus whip. It already has 54 bipartisan cosponsors in the House -- 27 Republicans, and 27 Democrats.