July 31, 2014

U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative:

On behalf of the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), the nation's oldest and largest Latino civil rights organization in the country, I write to express our organization's strong opposition to H.R. 5272, an extreme and unnecessary bill that would deny Latinos, including additional DREAMERS and other hardworking migrants, an opportunity to become fully part of American society.

LULAC has diligently worked for years with faith based organizations, businesses, and advocacy groups of every stripe to engage and educate members of Congress on the need for bipartisan, comprehensive immigration reform. While the Senate has responded by passing the Border Security, Economic Opportunity, and Immigration Modernization Act, the House of Representatives has not seized on the opportunity to do the same. Meanwhile, close to two million of our brothers and sisters have been deported, separating countless families, and thousands of children, fleeing extreme poverty and violence, are locked up in detention centers across the country.

In lieu of this inaction, President Obama has taken bold steps to provide limited and temporary relief to young Latino students, DREAMERS, who meet very specific requirements. Today, instead of looking to pass a bipartisan, comprehensive immigration bill, the House of Representatives will be voting on H.R. 5272 which will strip President Obama from providing critical protections to additional DREAMERS and other hardworking Latino immigrant brothers and sisters.

Our organization sees this bill as an affront to the Latino immigrant community. It is extreme and unnecessary and does nothing to address the humanitarian crisis at the border or fix our broken immigration system. Perhaps most disappointing, is that this bill comes on the heels of the release of the 2014 National Immigration Score Card, produced by LULAC and national Latino, Asian American, and Pacific Islander groups, which highlights Congress’ dismal record on immigration reform.

As the House moves forward to finish its work before the August recess, LULAC urges Congress to reject H.R. 5272. The 135,000 members of LULAC will carefully monitor movement on this legislation and any votes may be included in future score cards. We look forward to working with you on critical issues. Please feel free to have your staff reach out to Luis Torres, LULAC Director of Policy at latorres@lulac.org should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Margaret Moran
LULAC National President

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