



Archdiocese of San Antonio

Department of Communication

December 11, 2010

Joint Statement Archbishop García-Siller and Bishop Cantú applaud the members of Congress who passed the House version of the DREAM Act and ask U.S. Senators to follow their lead.

We extend our congratulations to the members of the House of Representatives who showed compassion and courage passing the House version of the DREAM Act this past week. It brings this nation one step closer to making the promise of opportunity for all in this land a reality to young people who, through no fault of their own, are in the United States without legal documentation. We now ask the members of the United States Senate demonstrate that they share in this vision of the future of our youth and of this great nation. We ask all people of good will to ask their U.S. Senators to support the passage of the DREAM Act in this legislative session.

You can call the office of Sen. John Cornyn at (202) 224-2934 and Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison at (202) 224-5922. [For more information, go to the Justice for Immigrants Legislative Center website.](#)

In solidarity with the Catholic bishops of the United States and in support of the youth of our country, we strongly express our continued support of the DREAM Act. The DREAM Act will open the door to permanent residency through a college education or military service to young people whose parents brought them as children into the United States without documents. Support of the DREAM Act is both a compassionate and practical policy that would allow our nation to benefit from the gifts and values that these young people have already demonstrated through their moral character and educational accomplishments.

We concur with Archbishop Jose Gomez, Chairman of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Committee on Migration, when he wrote to representatives in Congress that, "There are times when a proposal should be enacted because, simply put, it is the right thing to do."

We applaud the young men and women who have sacrificed so much in raising the awareness of the DREAM Act with their peaceful demonstration and sacrifice. However, we encourage them to be prudent about their long-term health and do nothing that would put them in danger.

Once again, we encourage those who join us in this great cause, to contact their U.S. Senators and respectfully ask them to pass the DREAM Act.

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Rev. Gustavo García-Siller
Archbishop of San Antonio

Most Rev. Oscar Cantú
Auxiliary Bishop of San Antonio