

The **DREAM** Act

The Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors Act, S. 3827

Sponsored by U.S. Senator Richard G. Lugar and U.S. Senator Richard Durbin

What is the DREAM Act?

The DREAM Act would provide immigration relief to a select group of students and allow them to become permanent residents if they came to the United States as children (under the age of 16), are long-term U.S. residents (5 years or more), have good moral character, and attend an institution of higher learning or enlist in the military for at least two years. In addition, the legislation would allow states to grant in-state tuition rates to alien students.

The DREAM Act would provide young people with an incentive to move toward permanent residency while pursuing further education or serving our country in the U.S. Armed Forces.

Why Does Sen. Lugar Support the DREAM Act?

Senator Lugar supports this legislation because it encourages young immigrants to continue their education and earn a degree or serve our country in the armed forces. Current census figures indicate that Indiana is now home to more than 317,000 Hispanics. If enacted, the DREAM Act would allow undocumented college-bound immigrants to apply for a conditional legal status. Approximately 50,000-70,000 undocumented students graduate from U.S. high schools each year; however, without legal status, it is difficult for them to attend college, acquire a job or join the military. Nationally, more than thirty percent of Hispanic students drop out of high school before graduation.

Additional Supporters of the DREAM Act

“...this important legislation is critical not only to the individual futures of thousands of undocumented young people, but to this nation’s ability to remain an economic power as well.”

Michael A. McRobbie, President, Indiana University

“The life, learning, and career opportunities created by these [DREAM Act] steps would have an enduring impact on students and their families ... Amid the unresolved broader debate in this country about immigration issues, the DREAM Act will empower people one by one to turn aspirations into actions.”

France A. Cordova, President, Purdue University

“Our country faces many challenges that will ultimately shape America’s status as a global economic force. With the enactment of this legislation, we will open the door for a generation of young people to fulfill their dreams of becoming Americans in every sense of the word.”

Mark Heckler, President, Valparaiso University

“...Without the ability to attend college or the military many of these children have no dream and therefore drop out of high school, which is simply a tragedy in the U.S.”

Tim Solso, Chairman & CEO, Cummins Inc.

A full list of DREAM Act supporters may be found at: <http://lugar.senate.gov/issues/dream>

Evansville	Fort Wayne	Indianapolis	Valparaiso	Washington, D.C.
101 NW MLK Blvd Rm. 122 Evansville, IN 47708 (812) 465-6313 P (812) 421-1883 F	6384A W. Jefferson Blvd. Covington Plaza Fort Wayne, IN 46804 (260) 422-1505 P (260) 424-1342 F	10 W. Market Street Suite 1180 Indianapolis, IN 46204 (317) 226-5555 P (317) 226-1883 F	175 W. Lincolnway Suite G-1 Valparaiso, IN 46383 (219) 548-8035 P (219) 548-7506 F	306 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510 (202) 224-4814 P (202) 228-0360 F

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How To Qualify Under the DREAM Act

- 1) Must have entered the U.S. prior to turning 16 years of age and been physically present in the U.S. for a continuous period of no less than five years immediately preceding the date of enactment.
- 2) Be a person of good moral character.
- 3) Graduated from high school, earned a GED, or admitted to an institution of higher education.
- 4) Be under the age of 35.
- 5) May not be inadmissible or deportable except for specifically enumerated exceptions.

* Legal status would be conditional until the student has completed one of the following: acquired a degree from an institution of higher education (which includes associate or trade school degree or completed two years of bachelor's degree) or has been a student in good standing for at least two years in a higher education program; served in the U.S. Armed Services for at least two years and if discharged, received an honorable discharge.

* A student who entered before the age of 16 but who is still in school beyond the age of 21 would not be cut off from benefits under this act; it provides conditional permanent resident status for a period of six years. The legislation extends immigration benefits to undocumented alien students who have been accepted to an institution of higher learning.



Dear Friends:

Serving Hoosiers is my foremost priority. In my Indiana state offices, I maintain a staff of Constituent Services Specialists who possess unique expertise regarding government agencies and programs. The Constituent Services Specialists provide the following services, among others:

- Facilitate communication with federal, state and local agencies,
- Identify appropriate resources for assistance,
- Ensure attention to constituent inquiries and advocate due process of constituent claims with federal agencies,
- Clarify federal regulations and procedures, and
- Provide general information.

Some of the areas in which my office assists include: immigration, tourist visas, passports, taxes, customs, housing, education, social security, and veterans' benefits. This is a partial listing of services my staff provides, and I encourage you to contact my Indiana offices for information or assistance on government-administered programs.

My constituent services team stands ready to assist you. Please feel free to write or call my main office in Indianapolis at 1180 Market Tower, 10 West Market Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2964, (317) 226-5555. Or you may contact my regional staff in your area: Evansville (812) 465-6313; Fort Wayne (260) 422-1505; and Valparaiso (219) 548-8035. Please let me know if I may be of service to you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rick Lugar".

Richard G. Lugar
United States Senator

Currently serving on the following Senate Committees:

- Foreign Relations Committee, Ranking Member
- Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry Committee

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