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To the Stevens Community:

As you may know, earlier this week Attorney General Jeff Sessions announced that the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) executive order had been rescinded. If Congress does not act within 6 months, the immigration status of approximately 800,000 undocumented young men and women, known as "Dreamers" will be at risk. These young men and women did not choose to enter our country illegally but were brought to the United States as children. Because of DACA they have been able to work in the United States, attend school and live productive lives.

For those of you who are not aware of the requirements to qualify for DACA, individuals must have arrived in the United States before age 16, have resided here continuously since 2012, be enrolled in or have completed high school, have not been convicted of a serious crime, and not present a threat to national security or public safety. While contributing to our country through their work and taxes, they are not eligible for federal and state financial aid or other types of assistance and subsidies.

I strongly believe that is in the best interest of our country to find a permanent solution that will allow the individuals in DACA to remain in the United States and continue to be productive members of our country. The circumstances of their arrival in the United States were outside of their control, and our elected officials should find a way to allow them to continue the lives they have begun to build here.

We have already begun to work with our government officials to argue in favor of legislation that finds a solution to this pressing problem and provides permanent status to DACA individuals. In the meantime, Stevens will continue to support its students in every way it possibly can.

Per aspera ad astra,

Nariman Farvardin President