March 17, 2021

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
H-232, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
H-204, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Leader McCarthy:

On behalf of the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities, I write to express my strong support for passage of H.R. 6, the American Dream and Promise Act of 2021.

APLU is a research, policy, and advocacy organization dedicated to strengthening and advancing the work of public universities. Annually, its 201 U.S. member campuses enroll 4.2 million undergraduates and 1.2 million graduate students, award 1.2 million degrees, employ 1.1 million faculty and staff, and conduct $46.8 billion in university-based research.

The American Dream and Promise Act is a vital action needed to address the untenable situation of undocumented students in this country. Dreamers are an integral part of our society, contributing significantly to our economy, communities and college campuses. They study and earn degrees at our nation’s colleges and universities, work and pay taxes, serve on the frontlines in the military and medical fields, and contribute to scientific innovation. Yet, our nation’s immigration policies have yet to provide permanent legal certainty, work authorization, and a path to citizenship. Simply put, this legislation is a moral and economic imperative.

APLU also endorses provisions included in the bill addressing the status of individuals in our country through Temporary Protected Status and providing opportunities to become permanent residents and eventually U.S. citizens.

APLU urges members of the House of Representatives to pass the American Dream and Promise Act to provide the protection to Dreamers they deserve and is consistent with our nation’s interests and values.

Sincerely,

Peter McPherson
President
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities

CC: Members of the House of Representatives