

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Dear \_\_\_\_\_

As a high school student, I write to ask you to support the DREAM Act, S. 729/H.R. 1751. This legislation provides a unique opportunity for undocumented students to earn legal status in the United States based on strong character and demonstrated hard work.

Many young people who would benefit from the DREAM Act were brought to the United States by their parents when they were very young. Having lived here for much of their lives, gone to school, and learned English, many of them are left with strong ties to the United States but without the ability to become U.S. citizens.

Some of these students attend Mennonite and Brethren in Christ schools. And although they have worked hard to earn high school and even college degrees they do not know if they will ever be able to use those degrees in the United States – the country they consider home. Passing the DREAM Act will allow students to use their degrees in social and public services and other fields, and continue to make positive contributions to society.

Finally, as you work to secure passage of the DREAM Act, please make sure it remains an educational and economic support bill for ambitious youth. Most of our church members are conscientious objectors and, while we can respect military service as a personal choice others might make, we strongly believe it is a choice that must be freely made in accordance with each individual's conscience. Immigrant youth should never be put in a position where they see military service as their only route to legal status.

So please pass the DREAM Act, but also make sure it contains plausible and attractive options for young people who want to serve the country they identify as home.

Thank you,

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State: \_\_\_\_\_