

Washington, DC

Legislative Update

Trump Administration stopped the DACA Policy this summer - started by President Obama that will dissolve rights of undocumented young people brought by their parents to the U.S, who now include an estimated 200 medical students.

This past week, NHMA joined the Brief for Amici Curiae Association of American Medical Colleges, Et Al in support of Respondents in the Supreme Court Case: Department of Homeland Security, et al v. Regents of the University of California – to be heard Nov. 12th to reverse this decision. Read more...

Last week, the Congress Education and Workforce Committee marked up the HR 4674, College Affordability Act and passed an Amendment (Thomas) that supports capacity building for career and technical education programs.

DACA, created under President Barack Obama's administration in 2012, grants some unauthorized immigrants brought to the U.S. as children protection from deportation and renewable two-year work permits.

About 800,000 immigrants have benefited from the program since it began. Many have gotten their first jobs, bought homes and started careers.

Over the past month, several judicial decisions have been made in favor of undocumented persons – which we support so that they can become part of the U.S. fabric of society. Read more...

On October 11, President Trump's immigration agenda ran into legal blockades in California, New York and Washington federal courts as judges barred his administration from trying to withhold green cards from people who use public benefits and rejected his plan to divert funds to erect a border wall – because they were found to be discriminatory against low-income people from developing countries and undermine the well-being of children if families stopped using nutritional, health and housing programs.

On Nov. 5, federal judge stopped the President Trump proclamation that immigrants entering the U.S. must provide proof of health insurance within 30 days of entry or have financial resources to pay for health insurance costs. The reason given was to protect the health care system and taxpayers from uncompensated care costs. Literature shows that undocumented persons have less health care access and are uninsured at higher rates than others.

On Nov. 6, a federal judge in New York City sided with 24 other states and declared the Trump's Administration "conscience rule" unconstitutional – that would have allowed physicians and other health professionals to refuse procedures that violate religious or moral beliefs, such as abortion and sterilization.

NHMA, as a part of the coalition, Defeat Malnutrition Today supported the **Dignity in Aging Act of 2019**, H.R. 4334, a bill to reauthorize the programs and services of the Older Americans Act, that was passed out of the House of Representatives. Older adult malnutrition is recognized in the bill through language calling for malnutrition screening in the preventive health section of the Older Americans Act and as one of the purposes of the nutrition program, the largest program in the Act.