

Trump Administration Rescinds DACA Program, Sparking Widespread Protests Across the U.S.



Washington, September 6 (RHC)-- In what is being considered a major attack on immigrant communities across the United States, Attorney General Jeff Sessions has announced the Donald Trump administration is rescinding DACA -- the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals -- which gives nearly 800,000 young immigrants permission to live and work in the United States.

Former U.S. President Barack Obama implemented DACA in 2012, after nearly a decade of massive grassroots organizing and direct action protests by undocumented youth across the country. On Tuesday, Obama spoke out in a rare statement, calling Trump's decision to rescind the program "cruel."

The Trump administration now says it will begin phasing out the protections in six months, meaning that some DACA recipients will be eligible for deportation as early as March 2018.

Between now and then, Congress has the opportunity to pass legislation that could protect DACA recipients, as well as millions of other immigrants currently in the country without legal authorization.

The announcement Tuesday morning sparked immediate protests across the country, with crowds taking to the streets in Minneapolis, Chicago, Los Angeles, Atlanta, Washington, D.C., and Houston, where thousands of DACA recipients and their families are currently helping the city rebuild after Hurricane Harvey.

In New York City, 34 people were arrested in a sit-in led by undocumented activists outside Trump Tower. High school students in Denver staged a massive walkout in protest of Trump's decision to rescind DACA.

The head of the U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Javier Palomarez, resigned from Trump's National Diversity Coalition in protest, calling the decision to revoke DACA "inhumane and economically harmful."

In Georgia, the Atlanta City Council immediately passed a resolution to support DACA recipients and to move to limit collaboration between local police and federal immigration agents. Both New York and California threatened to sue the Trump administration to protect the states' DREAMers.

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