



City of Newark

City Hall
920 Broad Street
Newark, New Jersey 07102

Legislation Text

File #: 13-2274, **Version:** 3

Dept/ Agency: Offices of Municipal Council/City Clerk

Action: () Ratifying (X) Authorizing () Amending

Type of Service: Supporting the New Jersey DREAM Act

Purpose: Urging New Jersey Governor Chris Christie to sign into law the New Jersey the DREAM Act enacted by the State Senate

Additional Information:

Sponsor: Council Member Carlos M. Gonzalez

WHEREAS, the original bill known as the Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors Act also called the DREAM Act has been reintroduced in Congress in 2013; and

WHEREAS, for thousands of young adults raised in this country, who were brought to the U.S. by their parents without proper documentation, current laws continue to keep their dreams for a future out of reach; and

Whereas, for them, pursuing a college education and a career isn't just a matter of working hard and achieving academically. Instead, they face many roadblocks in their path to success: a crushing financial burden, discriminatory enrollment policies, and the constantly looming threat of deportation; and

WHEREAS, the DREAM Act, would give undocumented young people the chance to overcome these obstacles by providing a clear path to citizenship, and the ability to attend public universities at an affordable rate; and

WHEREAS, the DREAM would allow states to charge in-state tuition rates to all resident students, regardless of immigration status; and

WHEREAS, only those who were brought to the U.S. at the age of 15 or younger have lived in this country for at least five years, have good moral character, have graduated from high school or obtained a GED, and who attend either college or military service for at least two years, would be eligible for citizenship. Those who meet these rigid eligibility requirements have truly demonstrated their commitment to building a life in the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, with the recently enacted State DREAM Act awaiting the signature of Governor Christie, we must remember the urgency of this legislation for so many young people. The DREAM Act is the only hope in sight for many talented young immigrants. For many of them, every day without this legislation is a day marked with uncertainty.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF

NEWARK, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

The Council and residents of the City of Newark support and urge New Jersey Governor Chris Christie to sign into law the New Jersey DREAM act for the benefit of the thousands of young people trapped in a difficult and dangerous situation due to their status as residents of the United States

STATEMENT

This resolution urges New Jersey Governor Chris Christie to sign into law the New Jersey DREAM Act which will provide a positive benefit to thousands of young adults whose dream for the future is being blocked by the lack of legal immigration status in this county.