



# SENATOR RICHARD LUGAR

# DREAM ACT

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(Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors Act)

## WHAT IS THE DREAM ACT?

The Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act would provide immigration relief to a select group of students and allow them to become permanent residents if they came to the United States as children (under the age of 16), are long-term U.S. residents (5 years or more), have good moral character, and attend an institution of higher learning or enlist in the military for at least two years. In addition, the legislation would allow states to grant in-state tuition rates to alien students. The DREAM Act would provide young people with an incentive to move towards permanent residency, while pursuing further education or serving our country in the U.S. Uniformed Services.

## WHY DOES SENATOR LUGAR SUPPORT THE DREAM ACT?



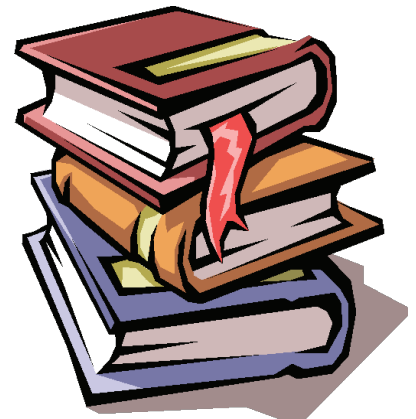
Senator Lugar supports this legislation because it encourages young immigrants to continue their education and earn a degree or serve our country in the uniformed services. Current census figures indicate that Indiana is now home to more than 290,000 Hispanics. If enacted, the DREAM Act would allow undocumented college-bound immigrants to apply for a conditional legal status.

Approximately 50,000-70,000 undocumented students graduate from U.S. high schools each year; however, without legal status, it is difficult for them to attend college, acquire a job or join the military. Nationally, thirty percent of Hispanic students drop out of high school before graduation. As we increase vigilance at the borders and in the visa issue process, we can increase security here at home by identifying those immigrants who have been going to school.

Senators Richard Lugar (R-IN) and Dick Durbin (D-IL) introduced the DREAM Act (S.729) on March 26, 2009.

If you would like to obtain a copy of the text and/or monitor the status of the DREAM Act please visit the Library of Congress website: <http://thomas.loc.gov>. For additional details, please contact Celina Weatherwax at Senator Lugar's Valparaiso office at (219) 548-8035.

**The bill must be enacted by congress before immigration benefits will be available to qualifying young people.**



## HOW TO QUALIFY UNDER THE DREAM ACT

Below are the eligibility requirements for the DREAM Act.

- 1) Must have entered the U.S. prior to turning 16 years of age and been physically present in the U.S. for a continuous period of no less than five years immediately proceeding the date of enactment.
- 2) Be a person of good moral character.
- 3) Graduated from high school, earned a GED, or admitted to an institution of higher education.
- 4) Be under the age of 35.
- 5) May not be inadmissible or deportable except for specifically enumerated exceptions.

\* Legal status would be conditional until the student has completed one of the following: acquired a degree from an institution of higher education (which includes associate or trade school degree or completed two years of bachelors degree) or has been a student in good standing for at least two years in a higher education program; served in the U.S. Uniformed Services for at least two years and if discharged, received an honorable discharge.

\* A student who entered before the age of 16 but who is still in school beyond the age of 21 would not be cut off from benefits under this act, it provides conditional permanent resident status for a period of six years. The legislation extends immigration benefits to undocumented alien students who have "been accepted to" an institution of higher learning.



### COMMITTEES:

- Foreign Relations
- Agriculture, Nutrition, & Forestry

For more information regarding the DREAM Act, please contact Celina Weatherwax, of my staff, at (219) 548-8035 or 175 West Lincolnway, Suite G-1, Valparaiso, Indiana 46383.

Dear Friends:

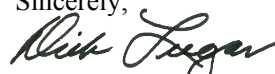
Serving Hoosiers is my foremost priority. In my Indiana state offices, I maintain a staff of Constituent Services Specialists who possess unique expertise regarding government agencies and programs. The Constituent Services Specialists provide the following services, among others:

- Facilitate communication with federal, state and local agencies
- Identify appropriate resources for assistance
- Ensure attention to constituent inquiries and advocate due process of constituent claims with federal agencies
- Clarify federal regulations and procedures
- Provide general information

Some of the areas in which my office assists include: immigration, tourist visas, passports, taxes, customs, housing, education, social security, and veterans' benefits. This is a partial listing of services my staff provides, and I encourage you to contact my Indiana offices for information or assistance on government administered programs.

My constituent services team stands ready to assist you. Please feel free to write or call my main office in Indianapolis at 1180 Market Tower, 10 West Market Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2964, (317) 226-5555. Or, you may contact my regional staff in your area: Evansville (812) 465-6313; Fort Wayne (260-422-1505; and Valparaiso (219) 548-8035.

Please let me know if I may be of service to you.

Sincerely,  
  
Richard G. Lugar  
United States Senator