



WEST VIRGINIA

# The American Dream and Promise Act of 2019

By Nicole Prchal Svajlenka | May 28, 2019

The American Dream and Promise Act of 2019, or H.R. 6, would put 2.5 million Dreamers and immigrants eligible for Temporary Protected Status (TPS) or Deferred Enforced Departure (DED) on a pathway to citizenship.<sup>1</sup> Individuals who are eligible for protection under the bill have lived in the United States for much of their lives; the average Dreamer came to the United States at the age of 8, while the average TPS- or DED-eligible person arrived in 1997.<sup>2</sup> Without permanent protections such as those in H.R. 6, these immigrants' and their families' futures in the United States—as well as the fiscal and economic contributions they make—are at risk.

## Immigrants eligible for protection under H.R. 6 are part of West Virginia's social fabric

- West Virginia is home to 1,500 immigrants who are eligible for protection under the Dream and Promise Act.
- These individuals live with 2,100 family members; among those family members, 300 are U.S.-born citizen children.
- Dreamers in West Virginia who are eligible for protection under the bill arrived in the United States at the average age of 8.

## West Virginia's economy benefits from immigrants eligible for protection under H.R. 6

- Eligible immigrants and their households contribute \$13,300,000 in federal taxes and \$5,600,000 in state and local taxes each year.<sup>3</sup>
- Annually, these households generate \$49,100,000 in spending power.<sup>4</sup>

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## Endnotes

- 1 University of Southern California Dornsife Center for the Study of Immigrant Integration and Center for American Progress, "Interactive Map: American Dream and Promise Act of 2019 (H.R. 6) Populations and their Economic Contributions by U.S. Congressional District," March 21, 2019, available at <https://dornsife.usc.edu/csii/map-dream-and-promise-act/>.
- 2 Data presented in this fact sheet are CAP analysis of 2012–2016 5-year American Community Survey microdata, with tags developed by the University of Southern California Dornsife Center for the Study of Immigrant Integration in order to identify eligibility for the Dream and Promise Act of 2019; Accessed via Steven Ruggles and others, "Integrated Public Use Microdata Series, U.S. Census Data for Social, Economic, and Health Research, 2012–2016 American Community Survey: 5-year estimates" (Minneapolis: Minnesota Population Center, 2015), available at <https://usa.ipums.org/usa/>.
- 3 Household tax contributions and spending power estimates are based on a methodology developed by New American Economy and include all households that contain a member who would be eligible for protection under the Dream and Promise Act of 2019, including immigrant youth who will be eligible to apply for Conditional Permanent Resident status once they enroll in secondary school. Federal tax rates come from the Congressional Budget Office, and state and local tax rates come from the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy. New American Economy, "Methodology" (2019), available at <https://www.newamericaneconomy.org/methodology/>; Congressional Budget Office, "The Distribution of Household Income, 2015" (2018), available at <https://www.cbo.gov/publication/54646>; Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy, "Who Pays? A Distributional Analysis of the Tax Systems in All 50 States" (2018), available at <https://itep.org/whopays/>.
- 4 Spending power is measured as household income after federal, state, and local tax contributions.