



Pennsylvania Department of the

**AUDITOR GENERAL**

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## News for Immediate Release

Sept. 5, 2017

### **Auditor General DePasquale Urges Congress to Protect Families Affected by President's Decision on Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals**

*Says 'Dreamers' in U.S. under DACA make major contributions to communities, economy*

**HARRISBURG** – Auditor General Eugene DePasquale today issued the following statement ahead of the president's anticipated announcement about ending the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) policy that allows nearly 800,000 young immigrants raised in the U.S. to work, attend school and serve in the military:

"America has always been a land of opportunity for immigrants dreaming of a better life for themselves and their children. Five years ago, America made a promise to young immigrants who arrived as children and grew up in our communities.

"We have a moral obligation to uphold that promise, and I urge members of the U.S. Congress to act swiftly to protect hundreds of thousands of families.

"Beyond the moral obligation, taking action against immigrants who arrived as children and are now valuable members of our society could have a devastating effect on the economy. Eliminating DACA is estimated to have a \$323 million negative impact on Pennsylvania alone.

"America cannot afford to turn our backs on dreamers who are making our nation stronger."

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