

DACA ‘wind down’ draws ire, praise

LAUREN E HERNANDEZ
STATESMAN JOURNAL

Oregon officials had mixed reactions Tuesday following the announcement to “wind down” a program that allows roughly 11,280 Oregon recipients to live, study and work in the United States, or serve in the military, without fear of being deported.

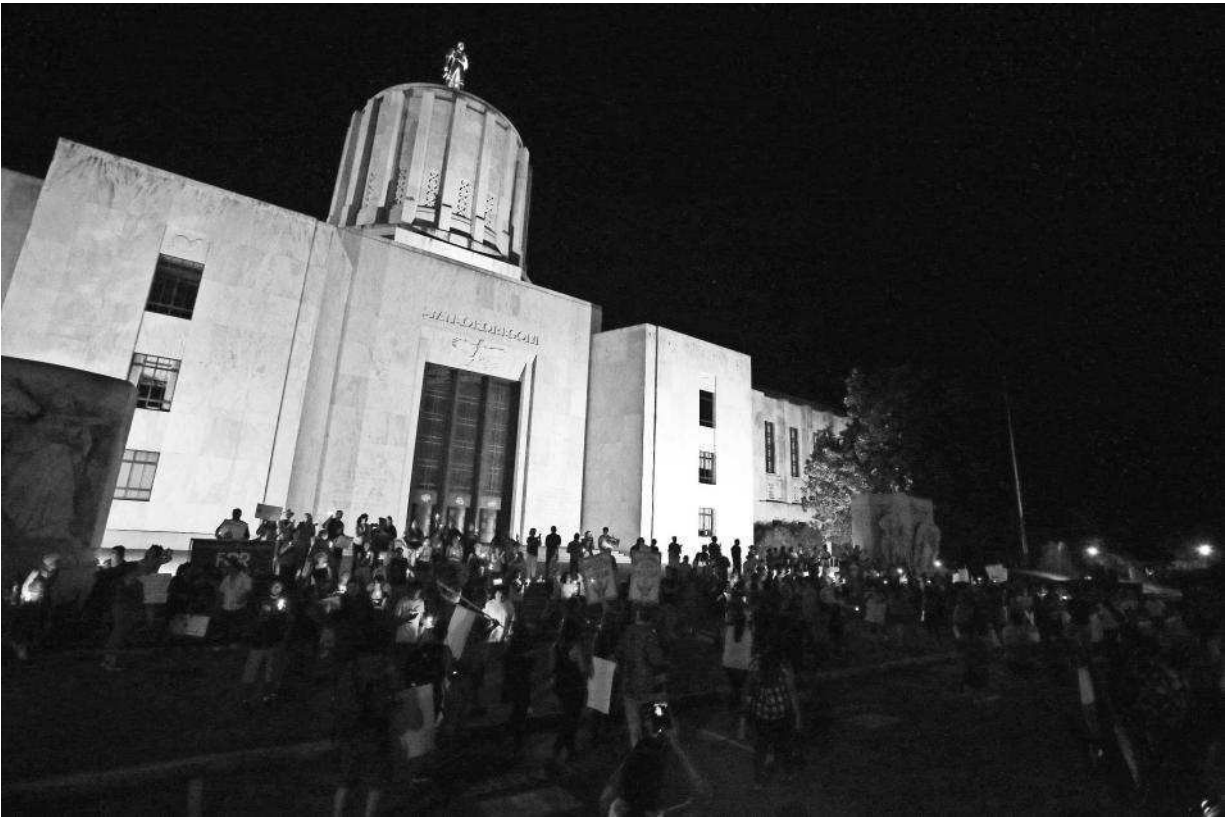
U.S. Rep. Greg Walden, R-Oregon, said the decision to phase out former President Barack Obama’s Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, or DACA, program will lead to much-needed immigration reform.

“Like all Americans, I have compassion for those who entered our country unlawfully as children and are now in limbo in our immigration system,” Walden said in a statement. “These are kids who know no other country as their home and were brought here through no fault of their own at a young age. It is up to Congress to find a permanent solution.”

Walden said he appreciates Trump’s understanding that Congress must address the problem in order to fix the United State’s “broken” immigration system.

United States Attorney General Jeff Sessions said the Trump administration is giving Congress six months to determine a legislative fix for the program, calling DACA an “unconstitutional exercise of authority by the executive branch.”

U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden, D-Oregon, was incensed. “Ending DACA to fulfill a bigoted campaign promise is cruel, unnecessary & undermines our



More than 100 people gathered in front of the Oregon State Capitol to support Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, or DACA, on the night of Sept. 3.

values,” Wyden tweeted.

He said DACA recipients, also called DREAMers, make vital contributions to the United States.

Oregon Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum said she is coordinating a legal defense plan with 19 Democratic attorneys general who wrote a letter supporting the program and announced plans to defend the looming cut.

“We may bring a lawsuit to preserve this program. Stay tuned,” Rosenblum said.

Andrea Williams, executive director of immigrant rights organization Causa Oregon, said the announcement is a “cruel political move” that jeopardizes the dreams of

more than 11,000 Oregon DREAMers.

“The future of these Oregonians is now in the hands of Rep. Walden to help pass the DREAM Act,” Williams said.

Passing the DREAM Act would essentially grant permanent resident status and allow DACA recipients a pathway to citizenship, Williams said.

Oregon Governor Kate Brown tweeted she’s calling on Congress to challenge Trump’s decision to rescind DACA. She called Trump’s immigration policies “reckless” and may lead to undermining Oregon’s economy.

An Institute on Tax-

ation & Economic Policy report estimates that undocumented immigrants pay \$11.64 billion in annual state and local taxes nationwide. In Oregon, undocumented workers pay roughly \$81 million in state taxes, according to a 2017 report.

“This effort from the White House to punish hundreds of thousands of innocent young Americans and split apart families goes against our American values and further divides our nation,” Wyden said in a statement. “Congress must come together and work on comprehensive immigration reform and a fair path forward for

DREAMers.”

Oregon House Speaker Tina Kotek urged Congress to reaffirm DACA to protect DREAMers and undocumented communities as a whole. The Democrat called Trump’s decision to end the program a “disgrace and a betrayal” of America’s values.

“We are a better nation than one that targets hard-working young people who trusted us to help them pursue the American Dream,” Kotek said in a statement.

Rosenblum joined Causa Oregon representatives, Portland Community College President Mark Mitsui and a number of DACA recipients

Tuesday morning at Portland State University to rally in support of the program.

“(Trump’s) idea of a ‘better’ DACA program is apparently to force these talented young people back into the shadows,” Rosenblum said. “We will sue and win!”

She said she was embarrassed ten of her attorney general colleagues succeeded in their threat to pressure Trump into rescinding DACA.

“Their argument, echoed by Jeff Sessions this morning, was that President Obama exceeded his executive authority in implementing DACA,” Rosenblum said. “That is just plain wrong.”

She points to Obama’s program as being an example of lawful prosecutorial discretion under the Take Clause Act and that the federal government had the legal authority to implement DACA.

Fatima Preciado, 19, a Portland State University political science major and McKay High School graduate, shared her fears of deportation now that she is no longer protected by the program.

Preciado, awarded 2016 Oregon Youth of the Year by the state’s Boys & Girls Clubs, said she did extensive background checks, biometric screenings and paid \$500 in fees and legal costs to become a DACA recipient.

“Despite 17 years of my contributions and service, my country still doesn’t recognize me as an American,” Preciado said. “This is heartbreaking and scary for me but I am committed to fight for the right to live in the country I was raised, and that I call home.”

Oregon joins lawsuit over plan to end DACA

LARRY NEUMEISTER AND GENE JOHNSON
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK - Fifteen states and the District of Columbia sued Sept. 6 to block President Donald Trump’s plan to end a program protecting young immigrants from deportation — an act Washington state’s attorney general called part of a “dark time for our country.”

The lawsuit filed in federal court in Brooklyn asked a judge to conclude that the president’s action

involving the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, or DACA, is unconstitutional.

It called the move “a culmination of President Trump’s oft-stated commitments ... to punish and disparage people with Mexican roots.”

Rescinding DACA will also injure state-run colleges and universities, upset workplaces and damage companies and economies that include immigrants covered under the program, the lawsuit says.

“The consequence of the president’s animus-driven decision is that approximately 800,000 persons who have availed themselves of the program will ultimately lose its protections” and be exposed to deportation, the lawsuit says.

Attorney General Jeff Sessions said Sept. 5 the program will end in six months so Congress can have time to find a legislative solution for the people in the program, who were brought to the U.S. illegally as children or came with families who overstayed visas.

Plaintiffs in the lawsuit

are New York, Massachusetts, Washington, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont and Virginia.

Under the move by Trump, people already enrolled in DACA remain covered until their permits expire. If that happens before March 5, they are eligible to renew them for another two years as long as they apply by Oct. 5. But the program isn’t accepting new applications.

Opponents of the pro-

gram said they are pleased with the Trump administration’s decision. They called DACA an unconstitutional abuse of executive power.

Washington Gov. Jay Inslee and Attorney General Bob Ferguson, both Democrats, called Trump’s action cruel and outrageous, given that the decision was announced by Sessions rather than the president himself.

A half-dozen beneficiaries of DACA — young adults from Mexico, Venezuela, Peru and elsewhere, including some now working at law firms or for the state Legisla-

ture — flanked Inslee and Ferguson at a news conference in Seattle announcing the lawsuit.

“It’s outrageous, it’s not right,” an emotional Ferguson said. “As attorney general for the state of Washington, I have a hammer, it’s the law.”

Inslee said, “This is one more of a long train of abuses that this president has attempted to foist on this great nation.”

Earlier this year, Ferguson sued Trump over his travel ban, prompting a federal judge to block nationwide enforcement.

Johnson reported from Seattle.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Self Storage Sale

Please take notice Absolute Storage LLC – Salem located at 2605 Hawthorne Ave. NE, Salem, OR 97301 intends to hold an auction of the goods stored in the following unit in default for non-payment of rent. The sale will occur as an online auction via www.bid13.com on 9/22/2017 at 12:00PM. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods and furnishings. Sherri Arnett Unit #518. All property is being stored at the above self-storage facility. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. See manager for details.

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SPECIAL TO THE APPEAL TRIBUNE

Sunday, September 17, begins the national celebration of Constitution Week. The week-long commemoration of the American document is an observance that often quietly slips by.

“Our Constitution stands as a testament to the tenacity of Americans throughout history to maintain their liberties and freedom, and to ensure those inalienable rights to every American,” said Linda Banister, Vice Regent of the Statyon Abigail Scott Duniway Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

The tradition of celebrating the Constitution was started by the DAR. In 1955, the Daughters petitioned Congress to annually set aside September 17-23 for the observance of Constitution Week.

The resolution was later adopted by the U.S. Congress and signed into Public Law #915 on August 2, 1956, by President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

The aim of the celebration is to emphasize citizens’ responsibilities for protecting and defending the Constitution, preserving it for posterity; inform the people that the Constitution is the basis for America’s heritage and the foundation for a way

DAR celebrates Constitution Week



COURTESY OF USA250.ORG

DAR President General Ann T. Dillon, left, and DAR Honorary President General and US Semiquincentennial Commissioner Lynn F. Young, right, present a donation to NPS Acting Northeast Regional Director Cynthia MacLeod.

of life;and to encourage the study of the historical events which led to the framing of the Constitution in September 1787.

The Abigail Scott Duniway Chapter encourages everyone to ring bells at 1 p.m. on September 17 to celebrate the start of Constitution Week. DAR is hoping to hear the bells peal simultaneously nationwide as a reminder of the occasion.

Beyond being involved in Constitution Week, the local DAR Chapter has also announced that planning for the United States Semiquincentennial in July 2026 has begun. The National Society Daughters of the American Rev-

olution will play a significant role in the planning process due to the recent appointment of Lynn Forney Young, DAR Honorary President General, to a national commission created to plan celebrations and commemorations surrounding the anniversary.

On July 28, 2017, DAR also presented the first major gift to USA250 with a \$380,000 donation to the National Park Service to underwrite the planting of 76 trees at Independence National Historical Park.

The trees will be planted over the next three years and mature as the nation approaches its

250th anniversary.

“The Daughters of the American Revolution, a longtime champion of historic preservation, education and patriotism, is honored to be represented on a prestigious committee with a mission so closely aligned with its own,” Chapter Regent Kyra Bacheller said. “We look forward to celebrating our nation’s incredible history and fostering a renewed appreciation for all of the Americans who founded our nation and ensured its progress through the generations.”

USA250 is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization based in Pennsylvania that was founded to promote a celebration of the Semiquincentennial and to facilitate the United States Semiquincentennial Commission, which was signed into Public Law 114-196 in July 2016.

DAR is a nonprofit, nonpolitical volunteer women’s service organization which has promoted historic preservation, education and patriotism since its formation in 1890.

It has 183,000 members with approximately 3,000 chapters in all 50 states and 13 foreign countries.

For information about DAR and its programs, visit www.dar.org, email the Abigail Scott Duniway Chapter at abigailscottduniway@gmail.com or call 503-769-5951.