

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PHOENIX PRIDE STATEMENT REGARDING

CANCELLATION OF DACA PROGRAM

PHOENIX — **Phoenix Pride** has issued the following statement in response to today's announcement by U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions that the Federal DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) Program will be withdrawn in the next six months:

"Like many in our community we are shocked, saddened and appalled at today's announcement that the current administration in Washington intends to end the DACA program in the next six months.

"Throughout the country, but especially here in Arizona, we know that there are many LGBTQ 'Dreamers' who are participants in the DACA program, and who will now face a future of uncertainty, fear and further marginalization as a result of this hateful, misguided and ill-conceived policy decision.

"We call upon the United States Congress to pass comprehensive immigration reform that will allow the Dreamers in our community, and nationwide, to continue to live openly and lawfully, and to pursue their education, career, military service or whatever lawful path they have chosen, as contributors to our economy, culture, workforce and communities.

"Phoenix Pride is committed to pursuing safety, equality and equity for all members of our community, and we stand in support of all law-abiding Dreamers and other immigrants, regardless of their gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, country of origin, age, creed or economic status."