



OREGON'S IMMIGRANT RIGHTS ORGANIZATION
ORGANIZACION PRO INMIGRANTE DE OREGON

December 17, 2012

The Hon. John Kitzhaber
Governor, State of Oregon
160 State Capitol
900 Court Street
Salem, OR 97301-4047

RE: MEETING REQUEST REGARDING DMV'S DENIAL OF DRIVER LICENSES TO QUALIFIED IMMIGRANT YOUTH

Dear Governor Kitzhaber:

We write on behalf of Causa and our allied organizations throughout the state. Last Friday, we learned that the Oregon DMV has implemented a policy of denying licenses to young immigrants whose Form I-766 Employment Authorization Document ("EAD") was issued to them upon their successful application for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals ("DACA"). The DMV is denying licenses to applicants who present an EAD containing a notation that the EAD was issued pursuant to DACA. Instead, these applicants receive a hand-written temporary license, which expires in 90 days.

Oregon's new policy of withholding licenses from DACA recipients is unacceptable. After discussions with you and your staff, we understood that DACA recipients would be treated fairly with respect to this important right. We were assured that they would be able to get their driver license if they had an EAD. We are deeply disappointed to learn that this is not the case.

Moreover, the new policy is unlawful. Oregon's refusal to issue licenses to qualified applicants who present an EAD violates both Oregon and federal law. We have already been contacted by individuals who were turned away by the DMV and expect to hear from many more next week. Our legal network is ready to assist any of these individuals who wants to assert their right to a license in court.

The DACA recipients who have been turned away from the DMV, and Oregon's immigrant communities in general, deserve an explanation for this policy reversal and **request to meet with you immediately** to discuss what actions you will take to restore driver licenses for DACA recipients.

Sincerely,

Francisco Lopez
Executive Director, Causa of Oregon

Paul Krissel
Member, Board of Directors, Causa of Oregon