



Secretary Janet Napolitano
Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20528

Dear Secretary Napolitano:

I am writing to support deferral and review of Jorge-Alonso Chehade's deportation order. He is scheduled for deportation on September 25, 2009.

Alonso was brought to the U.S. from Peru at the age of fourteen and has lived in the country for 8 years. Throughout his long-time residence in the U.S., Alonso has demonstrated a relentless drive to succeed, despite the difficult challenges posed by his immigration status. Alonso graduated high school with honors, attended Olympic Community College, and got his bachelor's degree at the Michael G. Foster School of business in the University of Washington. Although he is ready and eager to contribute to our society, Alonso's immigration status has prevented him from fulfilling his goals.

Alonso's story is part of a broader narrative of the challenges faced by immigrant students who have grown up in the U.S. and embraced American ideals, but are unable to fully contribute to our country because current immigration law does not provide a mechanism for them to do so. His case is a glaring illustration of the problems with our current immigration system, and it is a powerful reminder of the crucial need to advance comprehensive immigration reform, including the DREAM Act.

Alonso is exactly the kind of person we should be applauding for his achievements in America, not working to deport. In addition to helping Alonso today, we urge you to move forward on real, comprehensive immigration reform for the millions of other families who face permanent separation and banishment from the U.S. every day.

Sincerely,

Frank Sharry
Executive Director
America's Voice
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Washington, DC 20009