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# AG Horne to 'dreamers': No in-state tuition

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By Daniel González
The Republic | azcentral.com
Thu Aug 8, 2013 10:48 PM

About two dozen undocumented students and their supporters made an emotional plea Thursday to Arizona Attorney General Tom Horne, asking him to drop his lawsuit against the Maricopa County Community College District over a policy that allows undocumented immigrants who receive federal work permits to pay in-state tuition.

Horne, who is trying to end the policy, listened, but then told the students that he intends to move forward with the lawsuit.

"As the attorney general, I am obligated to enforce the law," Horne told the students after agreeing to meet with them at his offices near the state Capitol.

That prompted Dulce Matuz of the Arizona Dream Act Coalition to tell Horne that he was "anti-immigrant and anti-education."

Horne responded that he was neither anti-immigrant nor anti-education. "You may not know this," he said, but he is an immigrant himself, born in Canada. Horne also pointed out that before he was elected attorney general he was head of the state's Education Department and served more than 20 years as a school-board member.

After the meeting, the students carried on with a protest outside Horne's office. They held signs that said, "Stop bullying Dreamers" and chanted "Don't be a fool. Let us go to school."

Bibiana Vazquez, an undocumented student who attends Phoenix College, said she and many other undocumented students may have to drop out of college if Horne's lawsuit is successful because they can't afford to pay more costly out-of-state tuition.

Vazquez, who said she was brought to the U.S. illegally when she was 8 months old, is one of about 20,000 undocumented students who have received work permits through President Barack Obama's Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program.

"You are prohibiting a group of intelligent, hardworking students who want to obtain higher education," Vazquez, 20, said after the meeting.

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Carmen Cornejo of the Arizona Dream Act Coalition said about 250 deferred-action recipients are enrolled in the 10 Maricopa County community colleges.

She called Horne's lawsuit "politically motivated." Horne is a Republican. Obama is a Democrat.

Obama's program, which took effect on Aug. 15, 2012, is intended to protect so-called dreamers — undocumented immigrants brought to the U.S. as minors — from deportation if they meet certain criteria. Those approved for the program can remain temporarily in the U.S. for two years and also receive federal work permits.

After the program went into effect, the Maricopa County Community College District decided to allow undocumented students who receive work permits through the program to pay in-state tuition since federal

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work permits issued to undocumented immigrants for other types of deferred action had already been deemed acceptable for in-state tuition purposes.

The policy, however, was at odds with an executive order issued by Gov. Jan Brewer saying undocumented immigrants approved for deferred action under Obama's program should not receive any state public benefits.

As a result of Brewer's order, the state Board of Regents has deemed deferred-action recipients ineligible for in-state tuition at the state's three universities.

Then in June, Horne filed a lawsuit in Superior Court seeking to compel the Maricopa County Community College District to end the policy of charging in-state tuition to deferred-action recipients.

Horne argues in the lawsuit that the policy violates federal and state laws that prohibit undocumented immigrants from receiving public benefits. In 2006, Arizona voters approved a ballot measure that makes undocumented students ineligible for in-state tuition.

The district charges \$81 per credit for in-state tuition compared with \$322 per credit for out-of-state tuition, according to the MCCCDC website.



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**Elizabeth Raquel Sanchez** · Top Commenter

Good! Illegals have a sense of entitlement and it's time our legislators listen to what citizens demand - no privileges or benefits to lawbreakers. Let them use those work permits to save money for tuition. Better yet, use that money to hire attorneys to become LEGAL US citizens instead of waiting for the free pass.

Reply · 8 · Like · 3 hours ago



**Pete Clark** · Tucson, Arizona

Paul.. Looks to me that she is anti ILLEGAL alien...Your La raza loyalist tactic of leaving out the word ILLEGAL fools no loyal Americans!

Reply · Like · 45 minutes ago



**Philip Lambiase** · Top Commenter · D.O.A

As a person who helps pay for someones they loves college education. i can tell you in the community college alone the price difference is over 300 dollars a credit instead of the normal 65 dollars. this is exactly why i get annoyed with my fellow republicans because they seem to do things punitively.

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**Eric Wolf** · Top Commenter · Westwood High School

I completely agree. This is a ridiculous move on Horne's part, if someone wants an education and is willing to work for it, then why try to prevent that? It seems only fair to ensure that a college education can be afforded by all.

Reply · 8 · Like · 7 hours ago



**Debi Plum** · Top Commenter · Phoenix, Arizona

Yes, college education should be afforded by all. The Arizona Constitution states that same thing but we know how much our state loves its unconstitutional laws! Horny lets his hate shine through.

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**Rick Mueller** · Top Commenter

When you are here legally then you have earned in state tuition.

You have already stolen our education dollars in the lower grades ... why should our tax dollars pay for illegal aliens before students of legal residents?

Reply · 6 · Like · 3 hours ago



**R Lionel Johnson** · Top Commenter

these particular students have RAISED the AIMS scores. These students have overcome HUGE challenges... these students are actually smarter than you and me. THESE STUDENTS ARE THE HARDEST, SMARTEST STUDENTS YOU WILL FIND. We have invested in them and YOU would make an enemy of them.

Reply · 6 · Like · 3 hours ago



**Philip Reina** · Top Commenter · Phoenix, Arizona

Rick fails to mention that their parents paid taxes and by doing so have the right to have their children attend the schools that those taxes support! Nothing was stolen Rick, try the truth next time.

Reply · 5 · Like · 2 hours ago



**Jeremy Schulte** · Works at Amcor

Philip Reina ..really they paid taxes how exactly is that when they are illegal? You can not get job paying taxes being illegal. They all worked under the table and never paid a dime in taxes or medical care but rack up emergency rooms like they are going out of style. They have cost us trillions in health care and school and everything else. Become legal pay your dues and fees it takes then you can get instate tuition

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**Philip Reina** · Top Commenter · Phoenix, Arizona

The very desperate and unethical Tom Horne has always shown an inclination to pick up any "cause" in order to try and further his career!

The Horny Horne is a corrupt man who ran on the GOP's "Family Values" platform and was caught having an affair with his assistant! This poor excuse of a man wants to be your governor!

Here he is again trying desperately to keep his masters happy by doing their petty and dirty work by trying to deny driven and accomplished students from furthering their academic career! While trying to take away everyone's attention for the legal problems and current investigation into his unethical activities!

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**Gil Fidler** · Top Commenter

It's not a surprise that Republic left out that Arizona voters voted in a proposition not to give benefits to anyone who entered the state illegally.

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**Kathryn Lorimor** · Top Commenter · Phoenix, Arizona

Why would you want these young people who are trying to better themselves through education have their goals obstructed? We as a society are made better and stronger by the contributions of educated citizens. They are here, and they will continue to be here, would you rather that they be thwarted so that they pay less in taxes and/or add to the drag on our society? Perhaps you'd be more ideologically comfortable paying for their

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prison time if they can't get legitimate work? Why all the rage, hatred and need for retribution? These are kids and young people just trying to get ahead in a difficult world. They're not asking for special treatment, just the level playing field that other young people who live here have.

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**Dave Cummings** · Top Commenter · Scottsdale Community College

Because they are ILLEGAL aliens. Next question.

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**Lois Keating** · Top Commenter · Stafford High School

Same ole story told over and over again. How many years did it take before the Dream Act took place? Had to start with everyone that came here after 1986, as pre-86 everyone who wanted it got amnesty. It was a long road and a well fought battle and the majority agreed "its for the children", let it be done. Hurrays and balloons filled the air. Hundreds of Thousands came out from under the cloud of deportation, fear was banished, jobs were open to them, no more hiding. After a night of celebration, as the balloons lost air and came back to earth, the kids woke up to another new day and again put on their battle gear saying the Dream Act wasn't enough. It was but round one. That we allowed them into our schools was their due, now we should subsidize their college education too? The line between legal and illegal has been blurred, blind sided by an entitlement mentality with an "I am, therefor you owe me". The "its not my fault" I am here makes your debt to me even greater. I will NOT stop till you tear that border wall down, and give every illegal all citizenship rights and privileges.

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**Philip Reina** · Top Commenter · Phoenix, Arizona

Lois the petty, right wing propagandist cannot help herself in her blind and "Christian" pogrom against the Dreamers, children who were brought here at a very early age!

Lois wishes to punish and deny these children who had never pledged their allegiance to any other country, but only to the United States, by denying them a higher education.

Lois why don't you share what your "final solution" would be in addressing the fate of these children who grew up as Americans?

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**Lois Keating** · Top Commenter · Stafford High School

Philip Reina Why do I have to be right wing? Goodness with the name calling when having a different opinion. Was there anything that said I wanted to DENY them college? NO. Now that they're working, tax payers shouldn't have to subsidize their college, after already giving them a FREE education. Different word, huh? How much debt can taxpayers take on when we already owe near 17 trillion? I know a lot of folks that dismiss the debt, don't care its going to be shouldered by future generations. I just saw a story that 20-30 somethings will need 3 million in a retirement account to subsidize their SS check, if they want to have a financially secure retirement. 20 years ago, us older people only needed \$170,000. AND, that's when investment growth was 6-8%. We can't keep subsidizing every one with a want list and allow taxes to raise, expecting them to have that 3 mil. We OPENED the door, gave these dreamers a welcome, now it's up to them to work for what they want.

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**Caniac Steve Henderson** · Top Commenter · Winston-Salem, North Carolina

gee and what dreamers forget...is that and while the ICE agents lost their lawsuit against the government which is preventing them from doing their jobs..the judge ruled that the DACA memo & exec order is unconstitution...too bad the US DOJ won't do his job and stop handing out work permits to ghose who have no legal lawful business beong here...after all how hateful is it IF folks likwe Kenny were down in mexico protesting of legal rights when down there he has none...I'd love to see how well that works out as THEY do enforce the law..and how hateful is that ?? or are all the people in our nations jails & prisons been horribly wronged ?

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