



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF GRADUATE-PROFESSIONAL STUDENTS

#DHSRescindTheRule Call Congress Day Script

Who you should call:

1. We ask that you make the following calls:
 - a. Call the member of the House of Representatives who represents your home district.
 - b. Call both senators from your home state. And, if you are a student, call the senators who represent the state your institution is located in.

Contact information

- Find [House of Representatives phone numbers](#) here
- Find [U.S. Senate phone numbers](#) here

Script

Hello! My name is _____ and I am a constituent of Representative/Senator _____'s district. [be ready to give address and/or zip code to verify constituency - not all offices will ask for this but some will]

I am calling today to state my opposition to the recent rule proposed by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) that would eliminate Duration of Status for international students. Duration of Status determines how long an international student or scholar may legally remain in the United States, and it is determined and adjusted by the length of the student's academic program and related activities. DHS is now proposing to implement a **fixed period admission** with provisions for extension of stay.

[At this point, you can talk about why you oppose the proposed rule by speaking a little bit about your own personal experience or using one or two of the talking points listed below.]

1. It would hurt the recovery of the economy by further discouraging prospective international talents to study and work in the U.S., who have directly contributed [\\$41 billion and 0.5 millions jobs](#) in 2018 alone;



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2. It would discourage international students from pursuing a Ph.D. in the U.S. as the proposed fixed admission time frame (4 years) is much lesser than the median Ph.D. completion time of [5.8 years](#);
3. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), a branch of DHS, already monitors the international students in the U.S. through the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System ([SEVIS](#)) program;
4. It would severely impact the quality of higher education and research in the U.S. by limiting the ability of international students & scholars to participate in intended activities, who constitute a large portion of the workforce in graduate research and teaching;
5. It would significantly thwart the development of numerous industries in the U.S. by reducing its talent pool;

Can I count on Representative/Senator _____'s office to work in opposition of this ruling?

If yes: Thank you so much for your support.

If no: That is very disappointing to hear.

- **If you feel comfortable:** ask why they are in opposition, ask for follow-up communication from their office.
- **If you want to end the conversation:** Thank you for your time, and I hope you will reconsider the impact that this ruling will have on our international student communities and across all of our institutions of higher education.

If unclear/undecided: Thank you for your time, and I hope to have your support in opposing the ruling.

- **If you feel comfortable:** ask for follow-up communication once a decision is made.