Abstract: Effects that the Dream act had/could have

The Dream Act has had several impacts. It has led to more immigration reform movements in the US. More and more people are gaining momentum in the cause for the “Dreamers” or students who call the US their home. Even though Dreamers were not born here, they call US their home because they have lived here since such a young age. Dreamers are moral students who are wanting to continue their education through college. An example of a Dreamer is Marie Nazareth Gonzalez. “In 2007, she testified in Congress in support of the Dream Act” (468). In her testimony, she talks about her history. She was a Costa Rican valedictorian at her high school that had gone in a rollercoaster to be able to try and stay in the US to continue to higher education. Her families’ citizenship was questioned and they were informed that they were in the US illegally. Their whole town knew they were hardworking and moral people in which they supported them by submitting petitions. She became an iconic person in the Dreamer movement when she testified. Another result of the Dream Act was the Trail of Dreams. “Four Latino college students walked 1500 miles from Miami, Florida to Washington, DC in support of the Dream Act” (The Washington Post). Only one of the four had legal citizenship.

The Dream Act could have had economic benefits. In an article, “The Economic Benefits of Passing the Dream Act” by Juan Carlos Guzman and Raul C. Jara, they claimed that “if the United States were to grant a pathway to legal status to an estimated 2.1 million eligible youth in
our country by passing the DREAM Act. Overall, we find that the passage of the DREAM Act would add $329 billion to the U.S. economy and create 1.4 million new jobs by 2030, demonstrating the potential of the proposed law to boost economic growth and improve our nation’s fiscal health” (Center for American Progress). As you can see, the act could help our poor economy tremendously.

On the other hand, many people object to the bill. Some of the cons include: “countless immigrants flooding in before the law takes effect, use up resources, fading of American culture, overpopulation, and foreign enemies might exploit any amnesty policy or open border set in place” (Occupy Theory).

There have been several pushes for the Dream Act and millions of prospective students would be affected like Marie Gonzalez and the four students in the Trail of Dreams. Our economy would benefit from the bill. It will be hard at first but if they bill is to be passed then it will lead a pathway to the bigger issue of immigration reform which is a major issue in our government today.
Works Cited


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