

RESOLUTION No.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PASADENA SUPPORTING A HUMANE AND COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM PROPOSAL

WHEREAS, The United States of America is a nation of values, founded on the principles that all men and women are created equal, and promise of freedom for all; AND

WHEREAS, the current immigration system is broken, antiquated and not meeting the challenges of the 21st century. It separates families, creates long backlogs for families who are seeking reunification. Further, it neglects the hard work and financial contributions immigrants make to our country; and

WHEREAS, since 2008 more than 1.6 million immigrants have been deported, and one in every ten American children faces the threat of deportation of a parent; AND

WHEREAS, It is estimated that about 11 million undocumented immigrants are in the United States, and California has the largest population of immigrants, both legal and undocumented; AND

WHEREAS, The President of the United States implemented the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and The Migration Policy Institute estimates that 460,000 Californians qualify for DACA and the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services has reported that 152, 855 Californians have applied as of June 30th 2013. This is a step in the right direction but, it is not enough; AND

WHEREAS, One in 10 workers in California is an undocumented immigrant, and immigrants are a vibrant, productive, and vital part of the state's growing economy, holding jobs in areas such as food preparation, machine operations, construction, domestic and household services and general sales; AND

WHEREAS, the White House reports that a comprehensive immigration reform with a pathway to citizenship would, over 10 years, boost U.S. GDP by \$1.4 trillion, increase total income for all Americans by \$791 billion, generate \$184 billion in additional state and federal tax revenue from currently undocumented immigrants, and add about 2 million jobs to the U.S. economy.

WHEREAS, Los Angeles County is home to nearly 1 million undocumented immigrants and 20 percent of children in Los Angeles County have at least one undocumented parent; AND

WHEREAS, the San Gabriel Valley and the city of Pasadena are home to an ever growing, diverse population of immigrant families who work and contribute to the city and the region; AND

WHEREAS, according to the 2010 Census, the city of Pasadena was made up of 31% of foreign born persons; AND

WHEREAS, the City of Pasadena has adopted as part of the 2013 Federal Legislative Platform that we strongly believes that immigrants strengthen the community economically and culturally, and welcomes their contributions to society. With regard to federal legislation aimed at reforming federal immigration laws, the City would urge Congress and the President to reaffirm that addressing unlawful immigration in a compassionate manner is the primary responsibility of the federal government, and that sufficient resources must be committed on the federal level for this purpose; AND

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Pasadena hereby supports a humane and comprehensive immigration reform proposal with the following principles: provides an attainable and affordable pathway to full citizenship for the nearly 11 million undocumented immigrants in the United States; family unity as a cornerstone of our immigration system; provides due process and labor protections; allows access to key essential services such as health care; and local governments should not be mandated to enforce federal immigration laws, particularly when resources necessary to enforce local laws are already stretched.

Adopted by the following vote at the meeting of the City Council on September 30, 2012

AYES:


NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Mark Jomsky, City Clerk

Approved as to Form:


Michele Beal Bagneris, City Attorney