

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF FRESNO, CALIFORNIA, ENCOURAGING
CONGRESS AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE
UNITED STATES TO PASS COMPREHENSIVE
IMMIGRATION REFORM

WHEREAS, on October 3, 2013, the Council of the City of Fresno endorsed comprehensive federal immigration reform via Council Resolution 2013-179; and

WHEREAS, the United States of America is proud of its history as a nation of immigrants; and

WHEREAS, our nation's history has proven that immigrant integration is a desired outcome that should be promoted via federal, state, and local policies; and

WHEREAS, the United States of America has taken many actions to address the incongruity, including, but not limited to, current and future labor market needs and the limited availability of immigration visas, leading to a situation which has been described as a "broken immigration system"; and

WHEREAS, on November 20, 2014, President Barack Obama announced a set of Executive Actions on Immigration that include enhancing enforcement on undocumented immigrants along the border,

WHEREAS, the Executive Action on Immigration announced by President Obama also includes the expansion of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Program (DACA) and the creation of the Deferred Action for Parents of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents (also known as DAPA); and

WHEREAS, the implementation of DACA has enabled hundreds of thousands of immigrants in the nation, and thousands in the City of Fresno and other Central Valley communities, to undergo background checks, obtain temporary protection from deportation, and to obtain temporary work permits, thereby allowing them to contribute to the reactivation of the national economy, to become responsible members of our society, and contribute to the stability of their families; and

WHEREAS, since becoming operative on January 1, 2015, California Assembly Bill 60 has enabled over 400,000 people, who are unable to submit satisfactory proof of legal presence in the United States, to obtain driver's licenses; and

WHEREAS, Fresno Adult School, which operates under Fresno Unified School District, has become one of five recipients of the National Network for Integrating New Americans Initiative; and

WHEREAS, non-profit organizations such as SER-Jobs for Progress, Fresno EOC, Educational and Leadership Foundation, Mi Familia Vota, the Central Valley DACA Collaborative, and many other organizations and community groups are working to provide a variety of supportive services for Fresno's immigrant population; and

WHEREAS, local institutions of higher learning, including Fresno City College and California State University, Fresno, have established DREAM centers to support enrolled immigrant students; and

WHEREAS, despite all of the above actions, the United States Congress has yet to pass comprehensive immigration reform and the full implementation of extended DACA and DAPA has been suspended in federal courts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Fresno as follows:

1. Congress and the President of the United States are hereby encouraged to act with haste in passing comprehensive immigration reform legislation and to implement the DACA and DAPA programs announced by the President in 2014 to incorporate immigrants from all countries and backgrounds, and especially those immigrants who are residents of the City of Fresno and that such legislation provide a path to citizenship for lawful undocumented persons residing in the United States; and
2. IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, the Council of the City of Fresno supports the immediate implementation of extended DACA and DAPA to benefit Fresno residents who might benefit from these programs and enable them to further contribute to the greatness of our nation; and
3. IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, the Council of the City of Fresno affirms the desire to actively promote the economic, social, linguistic and civic integration of all immigrants residing in the City of Fresno; and
4. IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, the Council of the City of Fresno supports the active collaboration between the City of Fresno and non-profit immigration services providers and community based organizations to emulate the efforts of other welcoming cities throughout the nation and develop a plan to promote the economic, social, linguistic, and civic integration of Fresno's immigrant residents; and

5. IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, the Council of the City of Fresno invites other cities in Fresno County and neighboring counties in the Central Valley to follow suit and work towards the development of a regional approach to immigrant integration that will uphold the American tradition of being a nation of immigrants.

* * * * *

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF FRESNO) ss.
CITY OF FRESNO)

I, YVONNE SPENCE, City Clerk of the City of Fresno, certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Council of the City of Fresno, at a regular meeting held on the _____ day of _____, 2015.

AYES :
NOES :
ABSENT :
ABSTAIN :

Mayor Approval: _____, 2015
Mayor Approval/No Return: _____, 2015
Mayor Veto: _____, 2015
Council Override Vote: _____, 2015

YVONNE SPENCE, CMC
City Clerk

By: _____
Deputy

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
DOUGLAS T. SLOAN
City Attorney

By: _____
RAJ S. BADHESHA [Date]
Deputy City Attorney

RSB:nd (69545nd/rsb)- 12/03/15