SUBSTITUTE - Item 41

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state or federal governmental body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, according to the Pew Hispanic Center, in 2011, there were 11.1 million unauthorized immigrants living in the United States; and

WHEREAS, deportations have reached record levels under President Obama, rising to an annual average of nearly 400,000 since 2009; and

WHEREAS, according to Congress members Raul M. Grijalva and Yvette Clarke, although the Obama Administration reportedly prioritized deporting only criminals, many individuals with no criminal history have been consistently deported; and

WHEREAS, increased deportations and a continuously broken immigration system exacerbate the living conditions of U.S. citizen children whose parents have been deported; and

WHEREAS, separation of children from their parents, irrespective of immigration status, always results in severe consequences for young children who are left with no parental guidance or care and a highly unstable financial situation; and

WHEREAS, as immigration continues to be at the center of national debate, President Obama and Congress must implement a more humanitarian immigration policy that keeps families together; and

WHEREAS, California is home to approximately 10.3 million immigrants of which approximately 2.6 million are unauthorized to live in the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, many members of Congress recently signed a letter requesting President Obama to suspend any further deportations; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to expand the protections of our future citizens that were established by the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program and grant it to the family and neighbors and all those who have made their lives here but are yet to be fully recognized; and

WHEREAS, Los Angeles is home to large number of unauthorized immigrants from all parts of the world, the City should therefore make it a priority to keep families together and continue to press Congress and President Obama for a solution to our broken federal immigration system;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles, hereby includes in its 2013-2014 Federal Legislative Program SUPPORT for administrative action to suspend any further deportations of unauthorized individuals with no serious criminal history.

PRESENTED BY:

GILBERT A. CEDILLO Councilman, 1st District,

SECONDED BY: