

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, on November 8, 2013, Typhoon Haiyan, a category five typhoon, devastated the Philippines, displacing more than four million people, killing approximately 6,000 people and affecting approximately 16 million people according to the Government of the Philippines National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council; and

WHEREAS, on December 13, 2013, the Philippine government formally requested that the United States government grant them Temporary Protected Status (TPS) to temporarily stop the deportation of Filipino nationals;

WHEREAS, the City of New York and City and County of San Francisco have adopted resolutions in support of TPS designation for the Philippines and eligible Filipino nationals; and

WHEREAS, the City and the larger Los Angeles community should join the collective and humanitarian effort to support Filipinos during the continuous recovery of their nation; and

WHEREAS, for many Filipinos returning to their native country would entail returning to a country with limited resources, a country attempting to recover and unable adequately accommodate additional people; and

WHEREAS, the Philippines receives approximately nine percent of its gross domestic product through remittances; the designation would allow Filipinos residing in the U.S. an opportunity to assist in recovery efforts where they can legally work, send money and resources; and

WHEREAS, the Pilipino Workers Center of Southern California estimates 800,000 to 1 million Filipinos nationwide may be eligible for TPS benefits; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Homeland Security has previously granted TPS to nationals from countries suffering from civil war or severe natural disasters; and

WHEREAS, currently pending before the House of Representatives is bill H.R. 3602 (Green), which would designate the Philippines under section 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act to permit nationals of the Philippines to be eligible for TPS; and

WHEREAS, H.R. 3602 states that the extraordinary and temporary conditions caused by flooding and catastrophic damage wrought by the Typhoon Haiyan qualifies the Philippines for TPS designation; and

WHEREAS, H.R. 3602 stipulates that upon Act approval TPS for the Philippines will remain in effect for 18 months; eligible participants must have physical presence in the U.S. since November 8, 2013; be admitted as immigrants not ineligible for TPS; and, must register for TPS with Homeland Security; and

WHEREAS, H.R. 3602 allows participants to travel abroad with approval from the Secretary of Homeland Security and under emergency and extenuating circumstances beyond the control of the participant;

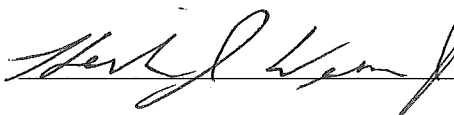
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles, hereby includes in its 2013-2014 Federal Legislative Program, SUPPORT of H.R. 3602 and/or any other similar legislation or administrative action to designate the Philippines under section 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act to permit nationals of the Philippines to be eligible for Temporary Protected Status in the United States.

PRESENTED BY:



MITCH O'FARRELL
Councilmember, 13th District

SECONDED BY:



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April 2, 2014