

14-1166

MOTION

Last Thursday, President Obama announced an immigration reform initiative that would permit as many as 5 million immigrants and international visitors to openly live and work in the U.S. The reform effort would, starting next year, begin to evaluate applicants and enroll those eligible to protect them from deportation.

The majority of those affected under the executive action, about 4.1 million, could be eligible for a program that will invite parents of either U.S. citizens or long-term permanent residents to apply for a work permit and three years of protection from deportation. Applicants will have to prove they have been in the country at least five years.

The President is also ordering an expansion of a program that defers deportation of people who arrived in the U.S. as children before June 2007. By opening the program, known as Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, or DACA, to people who immigrated as recently as 2010 and removing a cap on the age of the applicant, the directive will make roughly 300,000 more people eligible. The President's immigration order will make other changes affecting another 600,000 people, in part by expanding and adding visas for entrepreneurs and recent graduates in science and technology.

The President's immigration initiative will be implemented through directives from the Homeland Security Department. The Department will also, by memorandum, alter priorities for deportation. Immigration officers will be instructed not to deport people who were convicted before 2014 of low-level immigration violations. The priorities for deportation will be changed to fast-track removal of suspected terrorists and people convicted of gang crimes or other serious felonies. The second level of priority for removal will be of people with "significant" misdemeanors, multiple misdemeanors or immigration violations committed after January 1, 2014. A third level of priority will be for people who failed to abide by a removal order given after January 1 and those who left the U.S. and re-entered illegally after that date.

Given the large immigrant population we have in our City, and given the complexity of the issues involved as well as the very real need to protect our immigrants from unscrupulous agents and processing firms who prey on the immigrant community, we need to get an assessment of the President's immigration initiative, how it will be implemented, and how we can help and protect the immigrant population of our City in this matter.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Office of Immigrant Affairs, with the assistance of the City Administrative Officer and in consultation with other affected City offices and departments, be requested to make a presentation directly to Council on President Obama's new immigration initiative, what impact it will have on Los Angeles, how it will be implemented, and how we can help and protect the immigrant population of our City in this matter. to Council on what this action means for the City of Los Angeles.

Gilbert Cedillo
COUNCILMEMBER GILBERT A. CEDILLO

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PRESENTED BY *Herb J. Wesson, Jr.*
HERB J. WESSON, Jr.
Councilman, 10th District

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