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 must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, the Trump administration has adopted a “zero-tolerance” policy to prosecute all undocumented individuals caught attempting to enter the United States; and

WHEREAS, this policy has normalized the practice of placing detainee’s children under federal care until their cases are resolved in federal immigration court; and

WHEREAS, although previous administrations dismissed this practice as superfluously cruel, this administration has embraced it and separated over 650 children from their parents over a two week period in May 2018; and

WHEREAS, routinely separating families in this manner constitutes a horrendous abuse of human rights, denounced by the American Medical Association and the American Academy of Pediatrics because of the lifelong trauma the practice inflicts upon these children; and

WHEREAS, S 3036, also known as the Keep Families Together Act, would end this appalling practice by prohibiting border officials from separating children from their parents at the border; and

WHEREAS, the bill would also restrict the prosecution of asylum-seeking parents and require all U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers and agents to complete an annual child welfare training program; and

WHEREAS, passing this bill represents the first step toward healing the pain and trauma this administration has caused and demonstrating to the world that our country will not tolerate these abuses;

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 2017-2018 Federal Legislative Program support for S 3036, which will prohibit border officials from separating families at the border.

PRESENTED BY: PAUL KORETZ
Councilmember, 5th District

SECONDED BY: