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, Donald Trump, the President of the United States, has created hostility, fear and confusion among Los Angeles and the US immigration community by attempting to end the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, and just this week, after wholeheartedly supporting his Attorney General Jeff Sessions' "Zero-Tolerance" memorandum that accepted prying traumatized immigrant children from their parents, and putting those children in separate holding facilities, often thousands of miles away from their parents, signed an Executive Order to end the practice of separating children from their parents at the U.S. southern border with Mexico; and

WHEREAS, many immigrants from Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Mexico, and elsewhere are fleeing violence and persecution in their home countries, and are at our U.S. borders legally requesting asylum, and under the Zero Tolerance memo, promptly put into jail-like facilities; and

WHEREAS, despite President Trump's Executive Order to end the policy of separating children from their parents, and subsequent follow up to not jail parents with children, there are 2,300 children who are still being held in facilities and foster care apart from their parents by the Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Refugee Resettlement, including an estimated 100 minors here in Los Angeles; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Health and Human Services' system for guaranteeing the safety of unaccompanied minors has been shown, in some cases, to ineffectively track those placed with caretakers, and the department and the federal government have not been forthcoming when elected officials, or service providers and legal representatives have inquired about the state of the children and parents at these holding facilities or requested access, and it is imperative to the health and wellbeing of those 2,300 minors who have been held apart from their parents are accounted for and reunited with their parents; and

WHEREAS, Attorney General Jeff Sessions has requested relief this week from a federal district court regarding the US Justice Department's compliance with the 1996 *Flores settlement*, as it seeks to hold immigrant children longer than the 20 days mandated by that agreement;

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 any family reunification

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legislation and/or court action, including upholding *the Flores settlement* and amicus briefs that assist immigrant parents and/or minors held under the U.S. Justice Department's "Zero-Tolerance" memorandum to be reunited with haste, including the estimated 100 minors here in Los Angeles.

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PRESENTED BY: / cmt
JOSE-HUIZAR
Councilmember, District 14
PRESENTED BY: MWWWWWW GIL CEDILLO Councilmember, District 1
SECONDED BY: June F

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