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MOTION

With the recent election of Donald Trump as the next President of the United States, the City of Los Angeles has a vested interest in understanding the ramifications a Trump presidency will have on our City, in particular, in respect to his immigration and deportation policies of undocumented immigrants.

While the president-elect has recently stated that he intends to focus solely on "criminal immigrants," his rhetoric as a presidential candidate made little distinction between criminal and law-abiding immigrants, calling Mexican immigrants and others from South America and Latin America coming to the U.S. criminals and rapists.

With the County of Los Angeles home to 1 million of the estimated 11 million undocumented immigrants living in the United States, and the majority of those immigrants intertwined in all levels of life here in Los Angeles – including social, civic and economic – the deportation of any sizable percentage of that community would have a devastating impact on those immigrants, their children, as well as potentially, the City's economy.

A recent 2016 study by The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine report on immigration found that overall immigration enlarges the (U.S.) economy while leaving the native population slightly better off on average, but the greatest beneficiaries of immigration are the immigrants themselves as they avail themselves of opportunities not available to them in their home countries.

And a 2014 USC/California Immigration Policy Center study found that undocumented immigrants make up nearly 10% of the state of California's workforce and contribute \$130 billion annually to its gross domestic product.

In a nation founded by immigrants, we are a City of immigrants – we respect them, we honor them and we should protect them to the fullest extent of the law. We could not function, nor would be Los Angeles, without them.

It is our duty to not take any city, county, state or federal immigration-related policy guidelines for granted. We need to review them thoroughly and if we need to add language to explicitly state our City's intention of protecting our immigrant constituency to the fullest extent of the law, then we should do so.

I THEREFORE MOVE to request the City Attorney to report to Council on what legal efforts the City of Los Angeles can take to protect our immigrant community from any new or renewed federal efforts that would expand deportations or result in discriminatory practices against immigrants, regardless of their legal status.

I FURTHER MOVE to instruct the CLA and the CAO, with the assistance of the Economic and Workforce Development Department and any other department necessary, to report on the potential economic impacts of increased federal deportations on the City's economy, on potential impacts to current City programs that support immigrants and their children, regardless of their legal status, and on recommendations to protect City programs from any negative impacts of federal actions that target immigrants.

PRESENTED BY:




JOSE HUIZAR,
Councilmember, 14th District

SECONDED BY:



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