

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, immigration consultant fraud is a serious crime that causes the victim to lose substantial sums of money and can damage an applicant's immigration status; and

WHEREAS, the Trump administration has placed a renewed emphasis on deportation, which could stimulate growth for illegitimate immigration consultants; and

WHEREAS, the City Attorney has prosecuted a multitude of individuals for violations such as practicing law without a license, grand theft, and other related crimes resulting from immigration consultant fraud; and

WHEREAS, currently, California's Immigration Consultant Act (ICA) provides a narrow definition of who can provide immigration consultant services, as the current law prohibits immigration consultants from advising clients on which immigration documents to secure; and

WHEREAS, AB 638 (Caballero) would provide that attorneys and organizations accredited by the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) shall be the only individuals authorized to charge clients or prospective clients a fee for providing services associated with filing an application related to an immigration matter; and

WHEREAS, support of AB 638 is consistent with the City's efforts to protect immigrant communities from fraudulent activity; and

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 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for AB 638, which would alter the current law to only permit licensed attorneys and accredited EOIR representatives to charge fees for services related to an immigration matter.

PRESENTED BY


NURY MARTINEZ
Councilmember, 6th District

SECONDED BY



MAY 26 2017

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