

MOTION

The City of Los Angeles recently entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the County of Los Angeles, Department of Consumer and Business Affairs, Office of Immigrant Affairs (DCBA-OIA), to provide immigrant legal services through the RepresentLA Program, a comprehensive initiative that provides free legal representation for individuals in removal proceedings, legal counsel and representation for vulnerable individuals seeking affirmative immigration relief, resource linkage to vital support services, and outreach and education to Los Angeles County residents in underserved communities.

This program, which began as the Justice Fund, has provided critical legal services to hundreds of immigrants across the County, keeping families together and protecting the rich cultural and racial diversity that is central to the beauty and identity of Los Angeles.

Over the last several years, the City has invested significantly into these initiatives and the recent approval of the RepresentLA MOU demonstrates our ongoing commitment to support the immigrants of Los Angeles. Currently, however, the City only supports two of the four core pillars of the RepresentLA program: Community Support and Affirmative Immigration Benefits Representation. We currently do not support either Detained or Non-Detained Deportation Defense. The City should fully invest in these life saving programs, and not restrict which facets of this program we support.

**I THEREFORE MOVE** that the City Council instruct the Community Investment for Families Department, with the assistance of the City Attorney and the Chief Legislative Analyst, to work with the Los Angeles County Office of Immigrant Affairs, to prepare and present an amended Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the RepresentLA program that expands the eligible uses of allocated City funds to include detained and non-detained merits-blind removal defense.

PRESENTED BY:

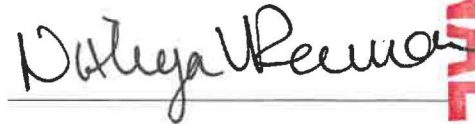


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SECONDED BY:



ORIGINAL



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