

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, on May 16, 2019 President Trump unveiled a "merit-based immigration system" which would alter the process for immigrants attempting to gain legal permanent residence or citizenship in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the proposed system would provide citizenship through a point-based system which identifies age, income level, English proficiency, and education-level as considerations for approval; and

WHEREAS, this policy of favoritism and discrimination would deny the most vulnerable immigrants, escaping economically and politically distressed countries, the possibility of obtaining citizenship; and

WHEREAS, the Trump Administration has consistently enacted harmful, discriminatory immigration policies such as changes to the public charge rule, the elimination of DACA, the elimination of Temporary Protected Status and Deferred Enforced Departure designations, and the zero tolerance policy which resulted in the separation of thousands of families; and

WHEREAS, President has continually repeated inexcusable rhetoric used during the 2016 presidential campaign likening immigrants to criminals, presenting them as a threat to the safety of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Trump administration unveiled this plan without bipartisan support, utilizing immigration policy for political purposes, endangering the social fabric of immigrant communities in order to appeal to political fringes; and

WHEREAS, the proposed merit-based immigration system is an absolutely morally bankrupt policy which discriminates against older, less educated, and low-income immigrants seeking legal entry into the United States; and

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles recognizes that regardless of age, gender, income level, education level, or native language, immigrants are inherently meritorious and contribute to the diversity and economic resilience of the United States;

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 2019-2020 Federal Legislative Program OPPOSITION to any legislation or administrative action which would establish a merit-based immigration system as proposed by the President.

PRESENTED BY:

Nury Martinez
NURY MARTINEZ
Councilwoman, 11th District

SECONDED BY:

[Signature]

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MAY 17 2019

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