

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 government body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council; and

WHEREAS, established in 2015, the One California (One CA) Immigration Services Funding program became the first state-based program in the nation to provide annual grants to qualified nonprofit organizations to offer education, outreach, and legal services to indigent immigrants; and

WHEREAS, organizations that receive One CA funding provide critical legal services, including representation for individuals facing deportation, and assistance with applications for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, Temporary Protected Status, naturalization, and other immigration remedies; and


WHEREAS, the One CA program provided legal representation to over one thousand individuals facing deportation and legal assistance to tens of thousands of DACA and TPS applicants in FY 2021-22; and

WHEREAS, One CA funding is currently not available to individuals with criminal histories, nor for related services such as interpretation and translation, medical examinations, expert witness testimonies, or other litigation costs; and

WHEREAS, currently pending before the State Assembly is Assembly Bill (AB) 2031 (Jones-Sawyer), the 'Representation, Equity, and Protections (REP) for All Immigrants Act', which would enhance One CA funding by removing certain exclusions to legal representation, expanding the scope of funded immigration services, and creating an advisory committee to ensure that immigrants and their families are able to access needed legal assistance; and

WHEREAS, AB 2031 will expand access to immigration and support services for immigrants, regardless of their ability to pay, language, or past interactions with the criminal legal system, and will strengthen the safety net for immigrants in California; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that by adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2023-24 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for AB 2031 to expand the One California Immigration Services funding to individuals with criminal histories, and cover related services such as interpretation and translation, medical examinations, expert witness testimonies, and other litigation costs.

PRESENTED BY: 
EUNISSES HERNANDEZ
Councilmember, 1st District

SECONDED BY: 

ORIGINAL


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