

MOTION

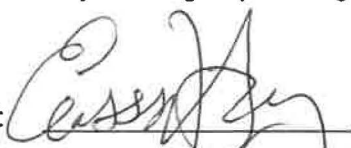
On June 14th, 2023 a bus originating from McAllen, Texas, a town on this country's southern border, carrying 42 migrants arrived at Los Angeles Union Station, under the direction of Texas Governor Greg Abbott. These 42 people, including 18 minors – three of whom were infants – , endured a 23 hour bus ride without basic essentials, including food and diapers. It is unclear whether any documentation exists showing that these migrants from Venezuela, Guatemala, and Honduras consented to this transit, let alone knew and understood what was happening to them, and voluntarily - without coercion or intimidation - entered the bus.

Los Angeles is a city that, from the beginning, has owed its successes and prosperity to the immigrant community. Our City is made vibrant and vital because we welcome people from all backgrounds and nationalities. Without our immigrant community, this City simply would not function. On June 9th, 2023 this Council recognized this by unanimously passing a motion that will put us on the path to becoming a true, formally recognized Sanctuary City.

While our City has unequivocally shown that we can and will be a safe haven for migrants and will welcome anyone who comes to Los Angeles, we cannot tolerate the abuse of human lives for the benefit of political theater. Governor Abbott's sentiments and actions are despicable, manipulative, racist, regressive, and potentially criminal and the City cannot and will not sit idly by while potential human rights violations take place.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Attorney be requested to investigate and report on whether human trafficking, kidnapping, or any other crime was committed on or before June 14th, 2023 when Governor Greg Abbott of Texas sent 42 migrants from McAllen, Texas to Los Angeles, California.


I FURTHER MOVE that the City Attorney be requested to investigate and begin proceedings on any potential civil legal action that could be taken against the State of Texas, Governor Greg Abbott, or any other entity relating to planning and actions of June 14th, 2023.

PRESENTED BY: 

EUNISSES HERNANDEZ
Councilmember, 1st District



HUGO SOTO-MARTINEZ
Councilmember, 13th District

 for

MONICA RODRIGUEZ
Councilmember, 7th District



NITHYA RAMAN
Councilmember, 4th District

SECONDED BY: 



JUN 16 2023

PK

ORIGINAL