

Communication from Public

Name: Lupita Martinez
Date Submitted: 01/12/2023 03:40 PM
Council File No: 23-2000

Comments for Public Posting: On behalf of the Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights (CHIRLA), I am writing to express our concern of the initial proposed removal of “immigrant affairs” from the Immigrant Affairs, Civil Rights, and Equity Committee. While we recognize and commend the latest proposed change that has reestablished a mention of “immigration” on the committee title, we believe that it is important to elevate the roots of the Immigrant Affairs, Civil Rights, and Equity Committee, and acknowledge the harmful implications of the removal of “immigrant affairs” from a committee assignment particularly in a city as diverse as Los Angeles.



CHIRLA
Coalition for Humane
Immigrant Rights

2533 W. Third Street, Suite 101
Los Angeles, California 90057

213.353.1335

1.888.624.4752

www.chirla.org

January 12, 2023

The Honorable Council President Paul Krekorian
Los Angeles City Council
200 N Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA, 90012

SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY

**RE: RECOMMENDATION TO CHANGE NAME OF IMMIGRANT AFFAIRS, CIVIL RIGHTS,
AND EQUITY COMMITTEE**

Dear Council President Krekorian,

On behalf of the Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights (CHIRLA), I am writing to express our concern of the initial proposed removal of “immigrant affairs” from the Immigrant Affairs, Civil Rights, and Equity Committee. While we recognize and commend the latest proposed change that has reestablished a mention of “immigration” on the committee title, we believe that it is important to elevate the roots of the Immigrant Affairs, Civil Rights, and Equity Committee, and acknowledge the harmful implications of the removal of “immigrant affairs” from a committee assignment particularly in a city as diverse as Los Angeles.

Founded in 1986 the Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights (CHIRLA), is made up of diverse immigrant families and individuals who act as agents of social change to achieve a world with freedom of mobility, full human rights, and true participatory democracy, fully inclusive of refugees and immigrants. Our organization has been working hard these past years to push back against federal attacks on our immigrant communities. As we observed a national increase of hate and discrimination, we worked closely with members of our City council and Mayor’s office to uplift the importance of recognizing our city’s inclusive representation and engagement of the immigrant community. It is imperative, we continue to explicitly and intentionally include immigrant issues in ongoing committee discussions and priorities.

Los Angeles is one of the most diverse cities in the world. It is home to the largest number of immigrants in the country– they make up 35% of all Los Angeles County residents, 51% of business owners, and 60% of essential workers. According to the USC Equity Research Institute, close to a fifth of people in the county are

HEADQUARTERS

2533 W. 3rd Street, Suite 101
Los Angeles, California 90057

STATE OFFICE

1225 8th Street, Suite 240
Sacramento, CA 95814

NATIONAL OFFICE

727 15th Street NW, Suite 1202
Washington, DC 20005

OFFICES IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES • SOUTH LOS ANGELES • EAST LOS ANGELES • SAN FERNANDO VALLEY • SAN BERNARDINO
ORANGE COUNTY • CENTRAL VALLEY

PRESENCE IN YOUR AREA

ANTELOPE VALLEY • HIGH DESERT • FRESNO



CHIRLA
Coalition for Humane
Immigrant Rights

2533 W. Third Street, Suite 101
Los Angeles, California 90057

213.353.1335

1.888.624.4752

www.chirla.org



undocumented and nearly 60% of children born in Los Angeles County have at least one immigrant parent. Immigrants contribute about 40% percent of Los Angeles County’s GDP of \$306.1 billion; undocumented immigrants alone contribute \$59.3 billion to the County’s GDP.

Immigrants are an integral part of our communities and the rich cultural and linguistic tapestry of Los Angeles. In our quest to reimagine an equitable Los Angeles, it is crucial for our city leaders to name and invest in the infrastructure to safeguard the well-being and advance the inclusion of all immigrants while eliminating exclusionary policies and practices across governmental agencies. Having a City Council committee where immigrants and their issues are uplifted will continue to result in more engagement and equitable access to local government.

The City Council must continue to hold a space to uplift the needs of its immigrant Angelenos. We applaud the reinstatement and recognition of the council of the importance of keeping “immigration” into the proposed Civil Rights, Equity, Immigration, Aging and Disability Committee. We look forward to working with committee chair elect Hugo Soto-Martinez and advancing our mission for a more equitable and inclusive City of Los Angeles.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Lupita Martinez at Lmartinez@chirla.org or (562) 325-2595.

Respectfully,

Angelica Salas
Executive Director

CC:
Office of the Chief Legislative Analyst, Los Angeles City Council
Los Angeles City Council

HEADQUARTERS

2533 W. 3rd Street, Suite 101
Los Angeles, California 90057

STATE OFFICE

1225 8th Street, Suite 240
Sacramento, CA 95814

NATIONAL OFFICE

727 15th Street NW, Suite 1202
Washington, DC 20005

OFFICES IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES • SOUTH LOS ANGELES • EAST LOS ANGELES • SAN FERNANDO VALLEY • SAN BERNARDINO
ORANGE COUNTY • CENTRAL VALLEY

PRESENCE IN YOUR AREA

ANTELOPE VALLEY • HIGH DESERT • FRESNO