

IN SUPPORT OF COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM

WHEREAS, immigrants have made valuable contributions to the progress of the United States and enriched the social, economic, cultural and civic life of our nation; and

WHEREAS, the current immigration policy debate has significant implications and lasting potential impacts for Alameda County residents and future generations; and

WHEREAS, nearly 500,000 Alameda County residents were born outside the U.S. including an estimated 124,000 individuals who are undocumented; and

WHEREAS, a comprehensive immigration reform plan will implement a system that provides a clear, fair, and affordable road to citizenship while promoting long-term solutions to the health, safety and economic well-being of all individuals and communities; and

WHEREAS, the success of the future workforce and economy depend on immigration legislation that will provide equal access to educational opportunities for all children living in the U.S. without the threat of poor economic status or deportation of family members or loved ones; and

WHEREAS, a pathway to citizenship that encourages family reunification, including for same sex-couples, also supports opportunities for workers, their families and employers to grow as well as advance the skill and independence of future generations; and

WHEREAS, the County of Alameda as the local health care safety net recognizes the human rights and dignity of all residents, regardless of immigration status, and supports a clear pathway to citizenship that will help more residents qualify for vital, tax saving subsidies through the Affordable Care Act and improve overall public health; and

WHEREAS, a pathway to citizenship will also advance public safety by empowering undocumented citizens to “come out of the shadows” and work collectively with law enforcement to protect communities from harm; and

WHEREAS, the passage of a comprehensive immigration plan by Congress will serve as one of the most important national reform efforts in recent history and also the foundation for the country’s growing economy and community health for several generations to come;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that this Board of Supervisors of Alameda County recognizes the many contributions of immigrants at the local and national levels and urges the 113th Congress to enact comprehensive immigration reform that will provide a clear pathway to citizenship and strengthen the well-being of individuals and communities.

KEITH CARSON, President
Supervisor, Fifth District

July 30, 2013

SCOTT HAGGERTY, Vice President
Supervisor, First District

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Supervisor, Second District

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Supervisor, Third District

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