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July 7, 2015

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt Resolution of the City Council of the City of Long Beach in Support of Comprehensive Immigration Reform. (Citywide)

DISCUSSION

Pursuant to your request of June 23, 2015, this office has prepared and submits the above-described resolution for your consideration.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Very truly yours,

CHARLES PARKIN, City Attorney

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1 RESOLUTION NO.

2
3 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
4 CITY OF LONG BEACH IN SUPPORT OF
5 COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM THAT WILL
6 PROVIDE A DIGNIFIED PATH TO UNITED STATES
7 CITIZENSHIP, STRENGTHEN THE NATION'S
8 WORKFORCE AND THE ECONOMY
9

10 WHEREAS, the current immigration system in the United States is broken and
11 not meeting the needs of a 21st century economy. The current system breaks apart
12 families, is not conducive to family reunification and ignores the economic contribution of the
13 immigrant worker; and

14 WHEREAS, since 2008 more than 2 million immigrants have been deported and
15 one in ten children face the deportation of a parent; and

16 WHEREAS, it is not practical or humane to deport the estimated 11 million
17 undocumented immigrants living within our borders; and

18 WHEREAS, California has the largest population of immigrants, both documented
19 and undocumented where one in ten workers is an undocumented immigrant, and immigrants
20 are a vibrant, productive, and vital part of the state's growing economy, holding jobs in key
21 industries such as agriculture, science, technology, service, health care and manufacturing; and

22 WHEREAS, the City of Long Beach recognizes that immigration reform must
23 protect the rights of all families to stay together, regardless of immigration status, family
24 structure, sexual orientation, gender identity, and to include same-sex couples, and provide
25 sufficient family-based channels for migration in the future; and

26 WHEREAS, Los Angeles County is home to nearly 900,000 undocumented
27 immigrants, the highest number of undocumented individuals in California; and

28 WHEREAS, the City of Long Beach is the second most diverse city in the United

1 States with immigrants and refugees from many parts of the world who work, own homes,
2 operate businesses and contribute to the economic, social, and cultural well-being of the City;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, a pathway to citizenship should not be conditioned upon shortsighted
5 border enforcement strategies and the criminalization of immigrants; and

6 WHEREAS, the President of the United States took Executive Action to provide
7 the expansion of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and Deferred Action for Parents
8 of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents (DAPA), it is estimated that more than 1.1
9 million of Californians are eligible for one form of executive action; and

10 WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Los Angeles County has passed a
11 motion supporting the Executive Action issued by the President of the United States; and

12 WHEREAS, estimates by UCLA's North American Integration and Development
13 Center indicate that L.A. County will see an additional \$1.1 billion in tax revenues and the
14 creation of an additional 38,500 jobs from the Executive Action initiatives; and

15 WHEREAS, the consequence of unbalanced immigration enforcement have
16 caused fear and trauma in immigrant and refugee communities and have increased civil and
17 human rights violations, family separation and immigrant deaths; and

18 WHEREAS, the City of Long Beach and local law enforcement must seek to
19 restore trust between immigrant and refugee communities by increasing transparency and
20 accountability of the involvement of federal immigration authorities in local law enforcement; and

21 WHEREAS, the Long Beach City Council acknowledges that civil and human
22 rights are deeply rooted in the fabric of democratically principled societies, and must be instilled
23 in all elements of our enforcement apparatus to ensure every individual's dignity and humanity is
24 upheld, recognized and respected; and

25 WHEREAS, the City of Long Beach passed a Resolution in 2010 in support of the
26 federal DREAM Act (and as part of the 2015 Federal Legislative Platform), and strongly believes
27 immigrants strengthen the community economically and culturally, and that it welcomes their
28 contributions to society.

