

A Resolution Asserting Washtenaw County's Support for Our Immigrant Community

WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

May 17, 2017

WHEREAS, President Donald Trump has proposed and begun to enact intensified policies, procedures and practices to detain and deport individuals in the United States without adequate legal documentation regardless of their tenure in our country, the nature or seriousness of any crimes they have been accused of, or the rationale for leaving their home country behind; and

WHEREAS, these actions frequently target or affect individuals who do not have a personal history of serious offenses – those commonly categorized as aggravated felonies – and they therefore serve mainly to cause instability within communities and families and incur unnecessary expenses for people and governments alike; and

WHEREAS, immigrant families contribute significantly to the social fabric of our community and provide diversity and dynamism to our local, state and national economies; and

WHEREAS, Washtenaw County is home to some 43,000 foreign-born residents, some of whom lack formal up-to-date residency or citizenship documentation; and

WHEREAS, current federal policy does not provide sufficient access to legal residency or citizenship as evidenced by the approximately 14 million undocumented workers and residents currently in the United States who have built lives and raised families here; and

WHEREAS, the United States system for detention and deportation includes serious shortcomings with regards to due process that many consider human rights violations, including lack of access to counsel and inhumane detention; and

NOW BE IT RESOLVED that Washtenaw County denounces expanded immigration actions by the federal government that destabilize our communities by creating an atmosphere of fear and isolation for our residents from other countries and their families regardless of their immigration status; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Washtenaw applauds the clear stand that our fellow public officials and agencies have taken in support of Washtenaw's immigrant community, particularly the efforts of local law enforcement to promote an atmosphere of security and stability; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Washtenaw Board of Commissioners urges Congress to adopt immigration reform legislation that restricts deportation actions to individuals charged with aggravated felonies, creates clear and reasonable immigration sanctions short of deportation for non-citizens convicted of crimes, expands opportunities for legal immigration and creates a path to citizenship for those seeking permanent status as members of our great nation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Washtenaw County calls on its business leaders here and throughout Michigan to express strong support for Congressional action on immigration reform that acknowledges the powerful contribution immigrants make to our local and national economy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners directs the County Administrator to send copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, Michigan's members of Congress,

Washtenaw’s state Legislative delegation, the local units of government in Washtenaw County, and the National Association of Counties.

COMMISSIONER	Y	N	A	COMMISSIONER	Y	N	A	COMMISSIONER	Y	N	A
Brabec	X			LaBarre	X			Smith	X		
Deatrick	X			Martinez-Kratz	X						
Jamnick		X		Morgan			X				
Jefferson	X			Ping			X				

CLERK/REGISTER’S CERTIFICATE - CERTIFIED COPY

ROLL CALL VOTE:

6 1 2

STATE OF MICHIGAN)

I, Lawrence Kestenbaum, Clerk/Register of said County of Washtenaw and Clerk of Circuit Court for said County, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate copy of a resolution adopted by the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners at a session held at the County Administration Building in the City of Ann Arbor, Michigan, on May 17th, 2017, as it appears of record in my office.

COUNTY OF WASHTENAW)^{SS}.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said Court at Ann Arbor, this 18th day of May, 2017.

LAWRENCE KESTENBAUM, Clerk/Register

BY: _____ Deputy Clerk



Res. No. 17-078
