

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR KATHRYN BARGER
AND SUPERVISOR HILDA L. SOLIS

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Federal Immigration Policy Advocacy

Los Angeles County is the largest and most diverse county in the United States. According to the Migration Policy Institute (MPI) Los Angeles County has the highest number of immigrants in the state at approximately 3,689,000 of which an estimated 998,000 are undocumented.

Regardless of immigration status, legislation that pertains to immigration directly affects a significant portion of Los Angeles County residents.

Over the past 3 decades, immigration has been a consistent topic of discussion on the national stage. The Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 (S.1200) sought to overhaul the immigration system at the start of the immigration influx. The bill passed the U.S. Senate and the House of Representatives, and went on to be signed into law. S.1200 is perhaps the most significant immigration reform bill to be signed into law since it was introduced in 1986.

A more recent attempt at comprehensive immigration reform was the Border Security, Economic Opportunity, and Immigration Modernization Act of 2013 (S. 744). The bill was introduced by a bi-partisan group of senators known as “The Gang of 8”. While the

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bill was widely discussed, praised by many, and passed by the United States Senate, it did not pass the House of Representatives.

The 114th Congress (2015-2016) introduced over 800 pieces of legislation pertaining to immigration. Despite the conceptualization of legislation, none were sufficient enough to address the tremendous issue at hand.

Even though there has been a myriad of proposed legislation pertaining to immigration, our immigration system remains broken.

With the current transition of power to a new Congress and President, many have speculated on the direction of federal legislative proposals. While there are concerns, we must act in a manner in which the people of Los Angeles County are considered from conceptualization to implementation of legislation for the foreseeable future.

Board action is an essential step in demonstrating the county's commitment to this important issue and desire to play an integral role at the federal level.

In addition, new immigration-related issues have gained prominence since the Board last updated its Federal Legislative Agenda. The Board should update its Federal Legislative Agenda policies and develop legislative and advocacy strategies to move these policies forward.

WE, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors

1. Revise the County's Federal Legislative Agenda to add policies to:
 - a. Support comprehensive federal immigration reform;
 - b. Support proposals which would protect Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and Deferred Action for Parents of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents (DAPA).
 - c. Support proposals which would encourage the reporting of crimes, human trafficking, child abuse and neglect, and communicable diseases.
2. Direct our Chief Executive Office's Legislative Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations Staff to work with our Washington D.C. and Sacramento advocates,

- the Immigrant Protection and Advancement Taskforce, and Board Offices to:
- a. Review existing policies in the County's Federal and State Legislative Agendas that pertain to immigration and recommend potential revisions, additions, or deletions, if any, and report back within 30 days;
 - b. Develop comprehensive legislative and advocacy strategies to advance the updated Federal and State Legislative Agendas for the Board's consideration within 60 days of this motion;
3. Direct our Washington D.C. advocates to communicate with the county's Congressional Delegation that the Board views immigration reform as a critical issue and, requests to be included in the federal policy discussion pertaining to this issue;
 4. Direct the Board Executive Officer to add a standing agenda item for future agendas (an "A" item) on immigration to enable immediate updates from staff regarding emerging issues or action taken by the federal government relating to immigration policies.

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