

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR HILDA L. SOLIS

May 21, 2024

Preserve State Funding for California State University Immigration Legal

Services Project

On May 10, 2024, Governor Newsom released his May Budget Revision. The revised State budget includes several cuts to programs that fund free legal help for immigrants through contracted local service providers. These include legal services for unaccompanied minors, immigrants with Temporary Protected Status, and immigrant students in the California State University system.

One legal service program that could lose the bulk of its funding is the California State University Immigration Legal Services Project (CSU- ILSP), which provides free legal help to immigrant students, staff, faculty, and recent graduates of the Cal State system. The May Revision reduces funding for this program from about \$7 million annually to about \$1.8 million. The CSU-ILSP offers free immigration legal services, along with education and outreach programs, to students, recent alumni, staff, faculty, and their immediate family members at each campus. The program ensures that young immigrants attending CSUs have trusted legal resources and are in the best position to

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complete their higher education, enter the workforce, and stabilize their family both economically and by obtaining legal status. Among those helped by this program are students who are renewing their deportation protection and work visas through the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, known as DACA, as well as younger undocumented students who are presently barred from the program as it remains in litigation.

Los Angeles County has long worked to offer support for immigrant residents, especially DACA recipients, many of whom were brought into this country at a young age. At a time when the County is facing a workforce shortage in many professional industries, it is imperative that we support these students to ensure that they can contribute to the Los Angeles economy.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the Chief Executive Office Legislative and Intergovernmental Relations Division (LAIR) to advocate for the preservation of CSU-ILSP funds as a part of Los Angeles County's budget advocacy for fiscal year 24-25.

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