

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR HOLLY J. MITCHELL

October 20, 2026

Proclaiming National Immigrants Day for Los Angeles County

National Immigrants Day provides an opportunity to honor the essential role that immigrants and refugee communities play in shaping Los Angeles County's (County) social, cultural, and economic landscape. Established through an Act of Congress in 1987, this annual observance is recognized on October 28, the anniversary of the dedication of the Statue of Liberty in 1886.

Immigrant and refugee residents are the lifeblood of neighborhoods, community services, and public institutions that uplift all Angelenos. They account for more than one-third of the County's population, approximately 3.3 to 3.5 million residents, and form the backbone of the regional labor force, holding over 40 percent of all jobs, 42.2 percent of healthcare positions, and nearly half of all business ownership. Their contributions generate billions in annual economic output and anchor local economic mobility.^{1 2} Immigrant workers and entrepreneurs are central to the County's growth, vitality, and the

¹ American Immigration Council, Immigrant Labor Force & Economic Contributions.
American Immigration Council. "Immigrants in the Labor Force and Regional Economies."
<https://www.americanimmigrationcouncil.org/>

² Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation (LAEDC), Economic Impacts of Immigrant Workers.
Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation. "Economic Impacts of Immigrant and Undocumented Workers in Los Angeles County."
<https://laedc.org/>

- MORE -

MOTION

MITCHELL	_____
HORVATH	_____
HAHN	_____
BARGER	_____
SOLIS	_____

steady functioning of daily life, particularly in sectors like healthcare, food systems, transportation, domestic work, education, and small business development.

The County is also one of eight state-designated Refugee-Impacted Counties, reflecting its long-standing role as a primary destination for refugees, asylees, Special Immigrant Visa holders, and humanitarian parolees who rebuild their lives here after experiencing conflict, persecution, and displacement.³ These communities enrich civic life while simultaneously navigating significant structural barriers during resettlement. The County is home to the largest Black immigrant population in California, nearly 75,000 residents, who experience layered inequities shaped by racism, xenophobia, and economic exclusion, underscoring the need for intentional visibility and strengthened County support infrastructure.⁴

Each year, multiple County departments, including Public Social Services, Public Health, Parks and Recreation, the Library, and the Department of Consumer and Business Affairs' Office of Immigrant Affairs, partner with community-based organizations to ensure that immigrant and refugee residents receive a dignified, supportive welcome as they rebuild their lives in the County.

At a time when our nation's legacy of offering refuge is being eroded and challenged from within, the County affirms National Immigrants Day as an opportunity to uplift our continued work to support immigrant-serving programs, strengthen language access, broaden healthcare and legal resources, uphold workers' rights, and ensure that County systems equitably serve the diverse communities that make our County thrive.

I THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

Proclaim October 28, 2026, as National Immigrants Day in Los Angeles County; adopt the Resolution attached as Attachment A; and encourage County residents to visit oia.lacounty.gov to learn more about resources available to immigrants and refugees.

³ California Department of Social Services, Refugee-Impacted Counties.
Los Angeles County is one of eight state-designated Refugee-Impacted Counties.
<https://www.cdss.ca.gov/refugees/refugee-impacted-counties>

⁴ California Immigrant Data Portal, Black Immigrants in California.
USC Equity Research Institute analysis confirming that Los Angeles County has the largest Black immigrant population in the state (~75,000).
<https://www.immigrantdataca.org/data-hub/special-projects/black-immigrants-in-ca>

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR HOLLY J. MITCHELL
October 20, 2026
Page 3

###

(JY/EA/KP)

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES PROCLAIMING OCTOBER 28TH AS NATIONAL IMMIGRANT DAY

WHEREAS, October 28, 2026, marks National Immigrant Day, a national observance first proclaimed in 1987 to honor the generations of immigrants who have shaped our nation's identity and character; and

WHEREAS, Los Angeles County is the most populous and one of the most ethnically diverse counties in the United States, and immigrants make up roughly one-third of the County's population, an estimated 3.3 to 3.5 million immigrant residents, or about 33 percent of all Angelenos, the highest foreign-born share of any large county in California; and

WHEREAS, immigrant-led households in Los Angeles County anchor entire industries and neighborhoods, with over 220,000 immigrant entrepreneurs building businesses across the County; and

WHEREAS, Los Angeles County is a state-designated Refugee-Impacted County and has ranked among California's top destinations for refugees, asylees, Special Immigrant Visa holders, and humanitarian parolees who have resettled here to rebuild their lives after fleeing persecution and conflict; and

WHEREAS, the County's immigrant and refugee communities include populations too often left out of data and public discourse, including Black immigrants, of whom nearly 75,000 called the County home as of 2023, the largest Black immigrant population of any county in California, Indigenous migrant communities, an estimated 122,000 LGBTQ+ immigrant adults, and immigrants who are aging or living with disabilities, each deserving of recognition, safety, and belonging; and

WHEREAS, encouraging a true sense of belonging requires intentional efforts to break down barriers, build mutual trust, and cultivate meaningful dialogue between all communities across our County's 88 cities and unincorporated areas; and

WHEREAS, immigrants and refugees enrich our civic life, drive our regional economy, and add vibrant depth to our neighborhoods, arts, and traditions, continuing a legacy that has built Los Angeles County into the global, diverse home it is today;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES HEREBY proclaims October 28, 2026, as National Immigrant Day in Los Angeles County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES calls upon all Angelenos, community leaders, businesses, and local institutions to engage in events and conversations that welcome everyone, foster deep belonging, and celebrate the diverse stories that make Los Angeles County strong.

The foregoing resolution was on the ____ day of _____ 2026, adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles and ex officio the governing body of all other special assessment and taxing districts, agencies, and authorities for which said Board so acts.

EDWARD YEN, Executive Officer-Clerk of the
Board of Supervisors of the County of Los
Angeles

By: _____

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

DAWYN R. HARRISON

County Counsel

By: _____

Deputy County Counsel