

PERSONNEL & ANIMAL WELFARE

MOTION

The City of Los Angeles has a number of job programs and partnerships, such as the Targeted Local Hire (TLH) and Bridge to Jobs (BRIDGE) programs, designed to provide job opportunities to individuals belonging to vulnerable populations. The TLH and BRIDGE programs provide significant on-the-job training and support to participants. These programs have been incredibly successful and well-received by departments and participants. Undocumented immigrants belong to many of the populations targeted by these programs, and the undocumented population itself has been made increasingly vulnerable in recent years.

The Trump administration's continued attacks on immigrants have chiefly focused on the undocumented population, with repeated efforts to dismantle the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, and the ever-looming threat of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) raids. People are faced with the possibility of family separation and being caged in inhumane detention centers.

The COVID-19 pandemic has revealed the significant hurdles that undocumented people face in the United States upon losing employment. These people are not afforded the same rights as their neighbors, and are denied unemployment benefits and relief opportunities. During the pandemic, undocumented people have been forced to continue to work in dangerous conditions in order to survive. The City could take additional steps to protect its undocumented population, and provide these individuals with job opportunities, and with a pathway toward citizenship.

The City currently allows DACA recipients to apply for open positions, but a new program could be created that would provide additional support to individuals without work authorization. The City could create a new jobs program that would provide a pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants. This program could provide support to participants as they navigate the pathway toward naturalization, as part of a participant's employment.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Personnel Department be directed to report, with assistance from the City Administrative Officer and the City Attorney, on the creation of a program that would provide a pathway to citizenship through City jobs, which seeks to support undocumented City employees through the naturalization process.

PRESENTED BY: _____


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