

COMMUNICATION FROM CHAIR, PERSONNEL AND ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE relative to creating a program that would provide a pathway to citizenship through City jobs.

Recommendation for Council action pursuant to Motion (Cedillo - Wesson):

DIRECT the Personnel Department to report, with assistance from the City Administrative Officer (CAO) 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.

Fiscal Impact Statement: Neither the CAO nor the Chief Legislative Analyst has completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

Summary:

On August 19, 2020, the Chair of the Personnel and Animal Welfare Committee considered a Motion (Cedillo - Wesson) relative to creating a program that would provide a pathway to citizenship through City jobs. According to the 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 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 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. After consideration and having provided an opportunity for public comment, the Committee Chair moved to recommend approval of the Motion. This matter is now submitted to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

COUNCILMEMBER PAUL KORETZ, CHAIR
PERSONNEL AND ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE

MEMBER VOTE

KORETZ: YES

LEE: ABSENT

PRICE: ABSENT

ARL

8/19/20

-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-