RULES, ELECTIONS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state or federal governmental body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council; and

WHEREAS, approximately 11 million undocumented immigrants work essential jobs and pay taxes in the U.S., but most do not have a pathway to earn permanent legal status in the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, Section 249 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, also known as the Registry statute, provides the Secretary of Homeland Security the discretion to register certain individuals who have been present in the U.S. as eligible to apply for permanent residency status; and

WHEREAS, Congress has updated the Registry statute's eligibility cutoff date four times since it was established in 1929 to allow individuals who entered the country improperly, overstayed a visa, or violated the terms of a temporary entry to the U.S. the ability to adjust to lawful permanent resident status; and

WHEREAS, the Registry statute was last updated in 1986 when President Reagan enacted the Immigration Reform and Control Act, which set the eligibility cutoff date to January 1, 1972 and allowed almost three million undocumented immigrants to apply for legal status in the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, currently pending in the U.S. Senate is S.2468, the *Renewing Immigration Provisions of the Immigration Act of 1929* (Padilla), which would remove the Registry cutoff date and expand eligibility to immigrants who do not have criminal records and have lived continuously in the U.S. for at least seven years to file petitions for permanent residency status; and

WHEREAS, S.2468 would preempt the need for further congressional action to update eligibility; and

WHEREAS, S.2468 would provide a pathway to permanent residency status for more than eight million people, including Dreamers, Temporary Protected Status holders, children of long-term visa holders, and highly skilled workers (H-1B visa holders); and

WHEREAS, S.2468 would update the U.S.'s outdated immigration system and provide millions of long-term U.S. residents a pathway to permanent residency in the U.S.;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that by adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2025-26 Federal Legislative Program, SUPPORT for S.2468 to amend the Immigration Act of 1929 to remove the Registry eligibility cutoff date and make certain long-term U.S. resident immigrants eligible for permanent residency status in the U.S.

PRESENTED BY

MONICA RODRIGUEZ

Councilmember, 7th District

SECONDED BY: