


REPORT OF THE CHIEF LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

DATE: October 20, 2025

TO: Honorable Members of the Rules, Elections, and Intergovernmental Relations Committee

FROM: Sharon M. Tso 
Chief Legislative Analyst

Council File No.: 25-0002-S86
Assignment No.: 25-09-0826

SUBJECT: Resolution (Rodriguez – Hernandez) to SUPPORT Senate Bill 2468 (Padilla).

CLA RECOMMENDATION: Adopt Resolution (Rodriguez – Hernandez) to include in the City's 2025-2026 Federal Legislative Program, SUPPORT for S.2468 (Padilla) to amend the Immigration Act of 1929 and make certain long-term U.S. resident immigrants eligible for permanent residency status in the U.S.

SUMMARY

Resolution (Rodriguez – Hernandez), introduced on September 5, 2025, states that Section 249 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, also known as the Registry statute, authorizes the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to register certain individuals who have been present in the U.S. as eligible to apply for permanent residency status. The Resolution further states that Congress has updated the Registry statute's eligibility cutoff date four times since 1929, allowing individuals who lack valid status the ability to adjust to permanent residency status in the U.S. The Registry statute was last updated in 1986 by President Reagan, which allowed almost three million undocumented immigrants who entered the U.S. before 1972 to apply for legal status in the U.S.

The Resolution states that currently pending in the U.S. Senate is S.2468 (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. The Resolution further states that S.2468 would preempt the need for further congressional action to update eligibility and provide a pathway to permanent residency status for more than eight million people, including Dreamers, Temporary Protected Status (TPS) holders, the children of long-term visa holders, and highly skilled (H-1B) visa holders. The Resolution states that S.2468 would update the country's outdated immigration system and provide millions of long-term U.S. residents a pathway to permanent residency in the U.S. The Resolution therefore requests that the City support S.2468.

BACKGROUND

The Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 (IRCA), signed into law by President Reagan, sought to reduce unauthorized immigration to the U.S. by establishing employment verification eligibility requirements (e.g. Form I-9), civil and criminal penalties for employers who knowingly hired undocumented individuals, and increased funding for border security, while also providing

amnesty to certain undocumented immigrants. To be eligible, immigrants were required to have entered the U.S. prior to January 1, 1972, maintained continuous residence within the U.S. since their entry, be of good moral character, and not be found inadmissible to the U.S. based on connections to certain criminal activity, including terrorism, genocide, and human trafficking, among others. Farm workers who were employed in the U.S. for at least 90 days also qualified for legal permanent residency. An estimated three million individuals, mostly of Hispanic descent, gained legal status in the U.S. through the IRCA.

S.2468 seeks to permit undocumented immigrants without criminal convictions, who have lived in the U.S. continuously for at least seven years to file for lawful permanent residency. A similar bill was introduced in the House in 2023, but failed to pass out of committee. S.2468 would amend the registry provision of the Immigration Act of 1929 and eliminate the eligibility cutoff date included in the IRCA, January 1, 1972, which has remained unchanged since 1986. This date is now so far in the past that very few individuals qualify. From 2015 to 2019, only 305 individuals adjusted their status based on this registry. S.2468 would especially benefit Dreamers; forcibly displaced individuals, such as TPS holders; and long-term temporary visa holders, to gain permanent residency in the U.S., as Congress has not passed legislation to provide them a pathway to legal status.

In 2025, the federal government took actions to terminate TPS for more than one million people from eight nations: Afghanistan, Cameroon, Haiti, Honduras, Nepal, Nicaragua, Syria, and Venezuela. TPS provides foreign nationals experiencing humanitarian crises, including armed conflict and natural disasters in their home countries with temporary status, protection from deportation, and employment authorization in the U.S. for up to 18 months. TPS designations are granted on a case-by-case basis by the federal government and can be extended for individuals from countries where crises have spanned many years.

Civil rights groups have filed six lawsuits in efforts to preserve protections for individuals from countries whose TPS programs were recently terminated. In July, 2025, a federal judge blocked the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) from prematurely ending TPS for Haiti before its current expiration date in February 2026. In October 2025, the Supreme Court upheld the termination of TPS for 350,000 Venezuelans who arrived to the U.S. in 2023 and whose protections will expire in October 2026. TPS for an estimated 250,000 Venezuelans who arrived in 2021 will expire in November 2025.


The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services estimates that about 11 million undocumented immigrants currently reside in the U.S. An August 2025 report from the Pew Research Center states that the unauthorized immigrant population reached 14 million in 2023. Increased federal immigration enforcement actions have targeted undocumented individuals in the U.S. As of September 2025, DHS estimates that two million immigrants have left the U.S. since January 2025, including 400,000 deported individuals and 1.6 million who voluntarily departed from the U.S.

DEPARTMENTS NOTIFIED

Community Investment for Families Department

BILL STATUS
7/28/25

Introduced



Susan Oh
Analyst

Attachments: Resolution (Rodriguez – Hernandez)

BB
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

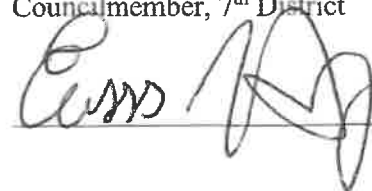
WHEREAS, S.2468 would update the U.S.'s outdated immigration system and provide millions of long-term U.S. residents a pathway to permanent residency in the U.S.;

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:



ORIGINAL

SO SEP 05 2025