

1 [Urging Federal Action on Comprehensive Immigration Reform]

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3 **Urging suspension of further deportations of undocumented immigrants, extension of the**
4 **Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, and an end to the firings of**
5 **undocumented workers.**
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7 WHEREAS, On April 15, 2013, The U.S. Senate Bi-Partisan Committee on Immigration Reform
8 proposed legislation to fix our country's broken immigration system; and

9 WHEREAS, According to the Pew Hispanic Center there were 1.1 million undocumented
10 immigrants living in the United States in 2011; and

11 WHEREAS, California is home to approximately 10.3 million immigrants of which approximately
12 2.6 million are unauthorized to live in the U.S.; and

13 WHEREAS, Deportations have reached record levels under President Obama, rising to an
14 annual average of nearly 400,000 since 2009; and

15 WHEREAS, According to Congress Members Rand M. Grijalva and Yvette Clarke, although
16 the Obama Administration reportedly prioritized deporting only criminals, many individuals with no
17 criminal history have been deported; and

18 WHEREAS, Increased deportations and a continuation of a broken immigration system
19 exacerbate the living conditions of U.S. citizen children whose parents have been deported; and

20 WHEREAS, Separation of children from their parents, irrespective of immigration status,
21 always results in severe consequences for young children who are left with no parental guidance or
22 care and a highly unstable financial situation; and

23 WHEREAS, As immigration continues to be at the center of national debate, President Obama
24 and Congress must implement a more humanitarian immigration policy that keeps families together
25 and respects the right of all workers to support their families; and

1 WHEREAS, Many members of Congress recently signed a letter requesting that President
2 Obama suspend further deportations and extend the DACA program; and

3 WHEREAS, On April 22, 2013, the San Francisco Immigrant Rights Commission issued a
4 statement voicing its concern about the shift away from family reunification, the unprecedented
5 expansion of border enforcement, the threats to workers due to the continuation of the E-Verify
6 program, and significant challenges that would result from proposed fee increases and new education
7 and language requirements; and,

8 WHEREAS, The proposed bill would eliminate sibling-based visas, making it harder for families
9 to petition for their adult married children, continue the discrimination in immigration law against LGBT
10 Americans and their foreign-born partners, and severely compromise our immigration system's historic
11 commitment to family reunification; and

12 WHEREAS, With new employment requirements, the proposed bill supports visas for high-
13 skilled workers at the expense of low-wage earners who provide essential services, pay taxes, and
14 contribute to the economy, and unnecessarily pits two classes of immigrant workers who should both
15 be embraced by our country; and

16 WHEREAS, New proposed requirements for English-Language proficiency presents significant
17 barriers and economic burdens to many aspiring newcomers, so waivers as they currently exist should
18 continue for those for whom these requirements are unnecessarily onerous; and

19 WHEREAS, Over 1,000 undocumented workers have been fired from their jobs in San
20 Francisco – including hundreds of janitors – by means of I-9 audits and the use of the E-Verify system,
21 both of which are methods for enforcing employer sanctions; and

22 WHEREAS, Firing these workers has caused immense hardship on San Francisco families and
23 children, driving them into the underground economy, increasing unemployment, poverty, and
24 homelessness and creating an atmosphere in which workers are fearful of protesting low wages and
25 bad work conditions; and

1 WHEREAS, President Obama and his administration have the power to discontinue this brutal
2 method of enforcing immigration law by ending the practice of using I-9 audits and E-Verify to identify
3 workers without documents in the workforce, send those lists of workers to employers, and order
4 employers to fire them; and

5 WHEREAS, San Francisco is home to a large number of undocumented immigrants from all
6 parts of the world, and the City should make it a priority to keep families together and continue to press
7 Congress and President Obama for a solution to our broken federal immigration system that includes a
8 fair legalization program and an end to employer sanctions; so let it be

9 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors joins the San Francisco Labor
10 Council in calling on the Obama Administration to take action to (1) suspend further deportations of
11 undocumented immigrants with no serious criminal history, (2) extend the DACA program to all eligible
12 undocumented members of immigrant families, and (3) end the firings of undocumented workers by
13 ending the I-9 audits and the use of the E-Verify system; and

14 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors joins the San Francisco
15 Labor Council in recommending that the City of San Francisco include in its 2013-2014 Federal
16 Legislative Program support for federal administrative action to (1) suspend further deportations of
17 undocumented immigrants with no serious criminal history, (2) extend the DACA program to all eligible
18 undocumented members of immigrant families, and (3) end the firings of undocumented workers
19 through the use of the I-9 audits and the E-Verify system.