

**Resolution in Support of Immigrant Rights
and in Solidarity with All Targeted Communities
of the California Latino Congreso, December 10, 2016**

Whereas, a blatant policy of hate, bullying, and persecution is now unfolding against the undocumented, Muslim, black, brown, Afro-Latin@, LGBTQI, and disabled communities, as well as against women's reproductive rights, fostered by and with the support of the Trump campaign and facing imminent implementation

Whereas, millions of people have been displaced into the United States as the result of wars, genocide, ethnocide, unfair trade practices, environmental destruction, and other similar factors;

Whereas immigrant farmworkers have been subject to constant threats, labor exploitation, and violations of their right to work in a healthy, safe environment, and whereas large numbers of farmworkers are indigenous peoples who face even greater persecution based on their indigenous identity, language and culture;

Whereas, under our current immigration system, immigrants face constant legalized harassment, persecution, exploitation, and discrimination;

Whereas, current immigration laws fail to provide adequate legal avenues to unify families, provide refuge to persons with well-founded fear of persecution;

Whereas, anti-immigrant ordinances policies and practices are not only present at a national level, but also at the state and local level in our country;

Whereas, a just solution to this situation of persecution can only be reached through a process that protects the civil rights of all persons, including immigrants, enabling immigrants to re-integrate into their country of destination within a reasonable time with full civic participation, and with the right to citizenship if they so choose;

Whereas, the struggle of immigrants to gain recognition and rights is a basic issue in the fight for democracy and against all forms of racism and discrimination;

THEREFORE, THE ORGANIZATIONS REPRESENTED BY THE DELEGATES TO THE 2016 CALIFORNIA LATINO CONGRESO HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

1. In solidarity with all peoples targeted by the incoming federal administration, we urgently call upon our elected and appointed government officials, law enforcement, educational institutions, religious institutions, businesses, and all other public servants, organizations, associations, and individuals, to stand with all members of our community who are threatened with political repression and targeted with acts of hate by the Trump administration and by his supporters. We specifically call upon all institutions of our communities to pass resolutions and develop and implement policies that protect the undocumented against deportations, firing or denial of job or educational opportunities or health services; that oppose any registration program or act targeting the Muslim community or other act denying them rights based on their religion, or any similar registration program targeting other communities; that oppose impunity for the targeting of black and brown lives and protect them from all forms of discrimination; that defend the marital and civil rights, respect for and safety of LGBTQI community, and that protect women's reproductive rights. We call upon all institutions and individuals of our community to refuse to collect information on immigration status or religious affiliation, or cooperate or share information with the Department of Homeland Security, the Border Patrol, ICE, or any other agency that threatens or targets these communities. And we pledge to mobilize, organize, and educate others in their defense.

2. We call for an immediate suspension of deportations of the undocumented on administrative grounds and the granting of legalization with a path to citizenship in all cases with the exception those who have committed crimes against humanity. In said regard, we call for a presidential pardon for violations under "illegal entry" provisions for all such undocumented persons in this country. .

3. We call for full access to judicial review in cases where applications for legalization are denied, including for the spouses and children of program beneficiaries. And we call for all persons, especially minors, to be granted free legal representation in all deportation proceedings. We consider that funding for such representation is a basic obligation of the federal government, and call upon state and local governments, educational institutions, religious and labor organizations to advocate for, and, where necessary, financially contribute to and/or provide such representation services.

4. We affirm our commitment to advocate for an inclusive immigration reform, under the following principles:
a. **Immigration reform** must put an end to discrimination against undocumented immigrants, by offering a speedy, reasonable path to citizenship for past, present, and future immigrants.
b. **Immigration reform** must work towards demilitarizing the US-Mexico border, closing private prisons, and ending administrative detention.

- c. **Immigration reform** must recognize the right of documented and undocumented immigrants to seek, obtain, and maintain employment without discrimination or being tied to a single employer through guest worker programs, and to full and complete protection under labor and health and safety laws, without fear of reprisals. “Employer Sanctions” and all other measures that criminalize work, which is a basic human right, must be repealed, because no human being is an unauthorized worker.
- d. **Immigration reform** must be granted to immigrants regardless of their household income and grant social security, health benefits, and other social benefits without discrimination.
- e. **Immigration reform** must not discriminate on the basis of religion or sexual orientation.
- f. **Immigration reform** must lift quotas on immigrants from countries in crisis.
- g. **The undocumented community must have full participation** in shaping immigration reform legislation.
- h. **Immigration reform** must decriminalize migration.

5. We call on all public and private officials, individuals, and entities to oppose any increases in funding for immigration enforcement or border infrastructure, technology, and militarization, exemptions from environmental protections or expropriation of indigenous lands and those of others for the sake of border enforcement, and to likewise oppose any obligatory national identification card or further tightening or restrictions on the issuance of government identifications already in existence.

6. We shall support efforts to develop and implement pro-immigrant legislation and policies that provide equal access to educational and job opportunities, opt-outs of Secure Communities and 287g programs; we shall support drivers’ licenses, state and local government I.D.’s for the undocumented, special exemptions and benefit programs for undocumented youth, childhood arrivals, and farm laborers, waivers from Federal I-9 requirements, effective English language acquisition programs, measures and funding to reduce backlogs in immigration and citizenship processing, for the conversion of Temporary Protected Status into permanent residency, and for facilitating the obtaining of citizenship status, and shall work to obtain healthcare insurance and services for all persons in the country, including the undocumented, and grant eligibility for the undocumented to be benefited with equality from governmental, private and religious institutions.

7. We call for the benefits of the Jay Treaty that provides border crossing rights, the right to live and work in the U.S., various public and educational benefits for Canadian indigenous peoples to be extended to the indigenous peoples of Latin America, and we call for Article 36 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples to be fully implemented with respect to indigenous peoples from all countries, which states that “Indigenous peoples, in particular those divided by international borders, have the right to maintain and develop contacts, relations and cooperation, including activities for spiritual, cultural, political, economic and social purposes, with their own members as well as other peoples across borders.”

8. We call for an end to police brutality and police killings, taking particular note of the targeting of undocumented families and the Mexican and Latino communities, and we stand in solidarity with Black Lives Matter calling for an end to police killings of our black brothers and sisters.

9. We call for the U.S. government to honor its contract with those who enroll in military service to be granted U.S. citizenship.

10. We make a specific call for the DACA program to be respected and maintained, as a basic right of children and youth.

11. We call for the State of California to protect our communities by becoming coming a Safe Haven so that our families can prosper and live free of fear and persecution, and to offer California citizenship to all of California’s people, including the undocumented.

12. We call upon all branches of government to investigate and prohibit any and all activities of private groups and individuals to intimidate, threaten, coerce and otherwise attempt enforcement of immigration laws, and to investigate cooperation among vigilante, militia, neo-fascist and population control groups that vilify and/or incite violence against immigrants and other targeted groups on the basis of immigration status, race, religion, sexual orientation and gender identity, and disabilities. We especially call upon state and local governments to take up this task, given the collusion with and tolerance on the part of the incoming Trump administration with such activities.

13. We shall support efforts to defend and protect the inherent rights of the undocumented and other targeted communities, including those rights that are denied under color of law, through advocacy and educational work, organizing and mobilization of our communities, civil disobedience, and all forms of non-violent resistance.