

CITY of ALBUQUERQUE

TWENTY-FIRST COUNCIL

COUNCIL BILL NO. M-15-10 ENACTMENT NO. _____

SPONSORED BY: Klarissa Peña & Ken Sanchez

1 MEMORIAL

2 REAFFIRMING THE CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE'S COMMITMENT TO CIVIL
3 RIGHTS, RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF IMMIGRANT
4 ENTREPRENEURS, WORKERS AND FAMILIES, AND URGING CONGRESS TO
5 PASS COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM.

6 WHEREAS, the Albuquerque City Council re-affirms its commitment to
7 immigrant integration and inclusion exemplified in R-00-151 which states that
8 "the Council welcomes and encourages immigrants to live, work, and study in
9 Albuquerque and to participate in community affairs, and recognizes
10 immigrants for their important contributions to our culture and economy." ;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, R-00-151 committed that "the City will include in its legislative
13 agenda requests that Congress enact just and humane immigration reforms
14 that provide immigrants and their families with rights in this country that are
15 commensurate with human dignity and their status as taxpayers and
16 contributing members of our community." ; and

17 WHEREAS, R-00-151 states that the "City shall not discriminate on the
18 basis of a person's national origin and will treat all persons with respect and
19 dignity, regardless of immigration status." ; and

20 WHEREAS, this Council believes in the human dignity of all Albuquerque
21 residents, regardless of immigration status, and recognizes the importance of
22 immigrants' many contributions to the social, cultural, intellectual and
23 economic fabric of the City; and

24 WHEREAS, immigrant entrepreneurs bring in additional revenue, create
25 jobs, and significantly contribute to the State's and City's economy; and

[Bracketed/Underscored Material] - New
[Bracketed/Strikethrough Material] - Deletion

1 WHEREAS, immigrants are twice as likely to start a business as U.S. born
2 citizens and immigrant-owned businesses generated approximately \$389
3 million dollars each year in economic activity in New Mexico between 2006
4 and 2010, according to the Partnership for the New American Economy; and

5 WHEREAS, immigrants play a vital role in New Mexico's workforce, and
6 comprised 12.7% of the state's workforce in 2011 (125,569 workers), according
7 to the U.S. Census Bureau; and

8 WHEREAS, unauthorized immigrants in New Mexico paid \$101.5 million in
9 state and local taxes in 2010, according to data from the Institute for Taxation
10 and Economic Policy; and

11 WHEREAS, 85.2% of children with immigrant parents in New Mexico were
12 U.S. citizens in 2009, according to data from the Urban Institute; and

13 WHEREAS, The current immigration system is broken, outdated, and has
14 had a devastating impact on New Mexico's families resulting in family
15 separation, labor abuses and exploitation of workers and has not permitted
16 immigrants to fully integrate into the broader community; and

17 WHEREAS, due to Congress' inaction on comprehensive immigration
18 reform, President Obama issued a series of executive actions on November
19 20, 2014, including the expansion of the existing Deferred Action for
20 Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and the creation of Deferred Action for Parents of
21 Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents (DAPA), allowing qualified
22 immigrants to apply for protection from deportation and work authorization for
23 a period of three years; and

24 WHEREAS, expanded DACA applies to qualified immigrants who came to
25 the United States when they were children who have lived in the U.S. for more
26 than five years, and DAPA applies to qualified immigrant parents of U.S.
27 citizens and lawful permanent residents who have lived in the U.S. for more
28 than five years; and

29 WHEREAS, the immigration executive actions will grow New Mexico's GDP
30 by \$490 million to 1.2 billion over the next ten years and will translate into
31 increased revenue for New Mexico's budget, according to the Council of
32 Economic Advisors; and

33

1 WHEREAS, although the City of Albuquerque recognizes the positive
2 impact that DAPA and DACA will have on the well-being of children and
3 families, it recognizes that it falls short of fixing the broken immigration
4 system and that comprehensive immigration reform with a path to citizenship
5 is vital for the full inclusion and integration of new and aspiring American
6 workers and families;

7 WHEREAS, it is similarly important for the City to support diversity and to
8 provide services to all persons in the City regardless of their race, disability,
9 national origin, gender identity, religion, sex, sexual orientation, ethnicity,
10 economic or immigration status (in addition to any other protected classes
11 under local, state, or federal law).

12 BE IT MEMORIALIZED BY THE COUNCIL, THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE
13 CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE:

14 SECTION 1. The City Council reaffirms its commitment to policies
15 established under R-00-151 including but not limited to its commitment to
16 “treat all persons with respect and dignity, regardless of their immigration
17 status” and that “[t]o the fullest extent allowed by federal and state law,
18 immigrants who live within the city limits of Albuquerque and their families
19 shall have access to all City services and programs.”

20 SECTION 2. The City Council encourages the City to work with private,
21 non-profit, and public sectors to support the implementation of DAPA and
22 DACA to the best of its ability.

23 SECTION 3. The City Council calls on Congress to pass comprehensive
24 immigration reform with a path to citizenship.

25 SECTION 4. The City Council supports the equal treatment of all persons
26 and states that all persons who live within the City should have full access to
27 all city services with respect and dignity, including public safety services and
28 programs, regardless of their race, disability, national origin, gender identity,
29 religion, sex, sexual orientation, ethnicity, economic or immigration status (in
30 addition to any other protected classes under local, state, or federal law).