

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, California has the largest immigrant population in the United States and 1.5 million immigrants live in the City of Los Angeles; and

WHEREAS, given the City’s significant and essential immigrant population and its status as a Sanctuary City, Los Angeles has broadened protections for and supported its immigrant constituents through intentional legislative and budgetary actions; and

WHEREAS, the Trump administration continues to target the immigrant community through mass I.C.E. raids, detentions, family separations, and deportations while terminating vital programs that offer immigrants legal services; and

WHEREAS, California Governor Gavin Newsom has presented the May Revision, an annual update to the Governor’s proposed budget with new information and proposals; and

WHEREAS, the Governor’s May Revision proposes a *maintained* \$75 million allocation to state legal services programs through the California Department of Social Services for immigration supports; and

WHEREAS, while the state’s maintenance of this annual allocation is a crucial action in support of immigrants - maintenance alone is insufficient in light of the unprecedented and vigorous nature of the federal attacks to the immigrant community that has swelled demand for immigration legal services; and

WHEREAS, multiple members of the state legislature and non-profit legal service providers propose that an additional \$60 million be allocated to the Fiscal Year 2025-26 state budget to more appropriately meet the increased volume of need; and

WHEREAS, this additional allocation would enable legal service providers to expand supports to unaccompanied undocumented minors, youth, adults, and families facing deportation, counteract the federal termination of immigration-related free legal programs, invest in assistance with naturalization applications, and expand legal representation for students and faculty at CSU campuses and community colleges; and

WHEREAS, this budgetary expansion at the state level would not only aid the City’s undocumented and immigrant community through broadened legal support and representation, but would also tangibly improve the quality of life by ameliorating fears of deportation, family separation, trauma, and economic destabilization that disproportionately impacts some of the City’s most vulnerable constituents; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that by adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2025-26 State Legislative Program, support for a \$60 million increase in state funding for immigration legal services.

PRESENTED BY: 
HUGO SOTO-MARTÍNEZ
Councilmember, 13th District

SECONDED BY: 

MAY 23 2025

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