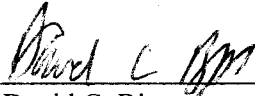


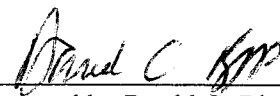


# City of Carson Report to Mayor and City Council

April 16, 2013  
New Business Consent

**SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 13-034 SUPPORTING THE ADOPTION OF THE COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM BY THE 113<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS**

  
Submitted by David C. Biggs  
City Manager

  
Approved by David C. Biggs  
City Manager

## **I. SUMMARY**

This item is on the agenda at the request of Mayor Pro Tem Elito M. Santarina.

Adoption of Resolution No. 13-034 (Exhibit No. 1) will demonstrate the City Council's support of the broad immigration reform that will update the legal immigration system so that employment visa policies will match our nation's labor needs, and be structured to guarantee the same rights, obligations, and fairness for U.S. and immigrant workers, and provide for the ability of workers to petition for permanent residency.

## **II. RECOMMENDATION**

TAKE the following actions:

1. WAIVE further reading and ADOPT Resolution No. 13-034, "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CARSON, CALIFORNIA, SUPPORTING THE ADOPTION OF THE COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM BY THE 113<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS."
2. DIRECT staff to transmit a copy of the executed resolution to the U.S. Speaker of the House John Boehner, President Pro Tem of the U.S. Senate Patrick Leary, Senator Barbara Boxer, Senator Dianne Feinstein, and Congresswoman Janice Hahn.

## **III. ALTERNATIVES**

TAKE another action the City Council deems appropriate.

## **IV. BACKGROUND**

On January 28, 2013, a bi-partisan group of eight Senators announced principles for comprehensive immigration reform (CIR). The Senators involved include: Chuck Schumer of New York, Dick Durbin of Illinois, Bob Menendez of New Jersey, and Michael Bennet of Colorado, and Republicans John McCain of

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Arizona, Lindsey Graham of South Carolina, Marco Rubio of Florida, and Jeff Flake of Arizona.

The policies envisioned by the Senators include the following provisions:

- A citizenship path for undocumented immigrants already in the United States contingent on certain border security and visa tracking improvements. The plan provides for permanent residence for undocumented immigrants only after legal immigrants waiting for a current priority date receive their permanent residence status and a different citizenship path for agricultural workers through an agricultural worker program.
- Business immigration system reforms, focusing on reducing current visa backlogs and fast tracking permanent residence for U.S. university immigrant graduates with advanced degrees in science, technology, engineering or math also known as the STEM fields.
- An expanded and improved employment verification system for all employers to confirm employee work authorization.
- Improved work visa options for low-skill workers including an agricultural worker program.

**V. FISCAL IMPACT**

None.

**VI. EXHIBITS**

1. Resolution No. 13-034. (pgs. 3-5)

Prepared by: Margie Revilla-Garcia, Public Information Analyst

TO: Rev09-04-2012

Reviewed by:

City Clerk	City Treasurer
Administrative Services	Public Works
Community Development	Community Services

**Action taken by City Council**

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Action \_\_\_\_\_

**RESOLUTION NO. 13-034**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CARSON,  
CALIFORNIA, SUPPORTING THE ADOPTION OF THE COMPREHENSIVE  
IMMIGRATION REFORM BY THE 113<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS**

WHEREAS, the United States of America is a land of immigrants, and the migration of people and families from all corners of the world has enriched American culture; and

WHEREAS, our city and America have prospered because of the social and economic contributions of hardworking, aspiring citizens; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Congress last enacted major immigration reform legislation more than a quarter-century ago; and

WHEREAS, America's current immigration system is outdated, hinders our economy, and does not reflect our city or national values; and

WHEREAS, immigration is a federal responsibility and a comprehensive approach to solving our broken immigration system would strengthen our city and nation's economy and free aspiring citizens to make an even greater contribution to our communities; and

WHEREAS, becoming a citizen of the United States means taking a solemn oath to uphold our nation's Constitution; and

WHEREAS, citizenship is an important symbol of full membership and participation in society that should be encouraged, not barred; and

WHEREAS, broad immigration reform must include a realistic pathway to citizenship for all hardworking, law-abiding, taxpaying, aspiring citizens who live in the United States if they meet reasonable requirements; and

WHEREAS, keeping families together not only reflects American values, but is also good for the economy because families provide a base of support that increases worker productivity and spurs entrepreneurship; and

WHEREAS, broad immigration reform must reduce the unreasonable wait times and arbitrary rules that keep families separated from their loved ones; and

WHEREAS, broad immigration reform must provide a mechanism for aspiring citizens who have grown up in this country, and for Temporary Protected Status grantees who face severe dangers and hardships in their native countries, to become citizens and be able to fully contribute to our shared future; and

[MORE]

WHEREAS, broad immigration reform must update the legal immigration system so that employment visa policies more realistically match our nation's labor needs, are structured to guarantee the same rights, obligations, and fairness for U.S. and immigrant workers, and provide for the ability for workers to petition for permanent residency; and

WHEREAS, the federal government must make significant investments in the effective enforcement of immigration laws while also ensuring accountability for those investments; that enforcement operations remain consistent with the American commitment to fairness and due process; and that security concerns do not unduly impede commerce, tourism, and legal migration;

WHEREAS, broad immigration reform must make naturalization more accessible and affordable for all of our nation's eligible legal permanent residents by addressing the high cost of naturalization and enhancing the availability of English and civics instruction; and

WHEREAS, broad immigration reform should guarantee reasonable and fair access to the basic safety net services that empower many immigrants to exercise community leadership and engage productively with American society; and

WHEREAS, broad immigration reform legislation must encourage immigrants to build deeper relationships in their communities and to attain citizenship by expanding access to the educational and social opportunities that so many immigrants seek in order to become true Americans; and

WHEREAS, patchwork attempts to mend the shortcomings and deficiencies of our broken immigration system would undermine our potential for prosperity and leave us ill-prepared to meet the challenges of the modern world, now, therefore

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Carson, California, urge the 113th Congress to enact comprehensive immigration reform as outlined in this resolution that provides a reasonable path to citizenship and social integration for workers, family members of U.S. residents, young people raised in this country, and other immigrants whose contributions are critical to the healthy functioning of our economy and society.

**PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED** this 16<sup>th</sup> day of April 2013.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Jim Dear

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk Donesia L. Gause, CMC

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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City Attorney