



RESOLUTION OPPOSING STATE IMMIGRATION LEGISLATION

WHEREAS Michigan's past and present are filled with examples of how individual immigrants and immigrant communities are assets that benefit all of us. Immigrants have consistently been at the forefront of medical, scientific, engineering and other advancements and have been significant drivers of the economic engine that propelled the State's successes. There is every reason to believe immigrants will play a vital role in Michigan's economic recovery, but only if we welcome their contributions.

AND AS Michigan wishes to be recognized as the state where entrepreneurs and their companies will be met with a business climate and supportive regulatory environment second to none.

AND AS it is in Michigan's economic interests to welcome business owners, and all immigrants with the same open arms, particularly at a time when many foreign born entrepreneurs and those with highly sought job skills are looking to relocate from states that do take actions that make them feel unwelcome.

AND AS erecting burdensome and unnecessary barriers for immigrants sends a message even to those who are able to comply, that Michigan is not really interested in welcoming them.

AND AS the xenophobic message sent by adopting laws or regulations that target the foreign born deters not only those temporarily in the United States, but also those who are already American citizens.

AND AS focusing enforcement on persons who appear, and thus are suspected to be, non-citizens unfairly burdens those born in America who 'look foreign', even while disregarding those born elsewhere who 'look like they belong.'

AND AS the skilled workers, small business owners, investors and advanced graduates who Michigan recognizes as key to our economic future will choose where to live not only based on where they want to work, but also where they want to go home to after work.

AND AS we recognize American immigration policy presents extremely important, immensely complex and intricately interconnected issues that need to be addressed by comprehensive reform.

THE MICHIGAN ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN AFFAIRS COMMISSION BELIEVES this nation's immigration policy must be determined at the federal level and should be consistent from state to state.

WE FURTHER BELIEVE states adopting immigration laws or policies that are more restrictive than federally required are placing themselves at an economic disadvantage when competing both nationally and globally for new businesses, investors and specifically skilled workers.

WE FURTHER BELIEVE that whether they seek to relax or toughen immigration law, all those seeking to bring about change should direct their efforts to federal policy makers.

THE MICHIGAN ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN AFFAIRS COMMISSION THEREFORE RESOLVES THAT Michigan should pass no law and enforce no regulation related to immigration and/or immigrants that is more restrictive than that required federally. All such efforts to do so are misguided and should be opposed.



Adopted this 4th day of November, 2011

By the Michigan Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission