

**HISPANIC/LATINO COMMISSION OF MICHIGAN
RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO HOUSE BILL 4305**

WHEREAS, Governor Rick Snyder has announced an, "exciting new initiative to encourage immigrants with advanced college degrees to come to Michigan to live and work..." stating that, "immigration made us a great state and country. It is time we embrace this concept as a way to speed our reinvention;"

WHEREAS, House Bill 4305 of 2011 requires law enforcement officials to attempt to "verify the person's immigration status," wherever they have lawfully stopped, detained or arrested someone who "should reasonably be suspected of being unlawfully present in the United States;"

WHEREAS, persons of Hispanic origin who are United States citizens or lawfully present in Michigan look no different from Hispanics in our State who are without a right to be present in the United States, and House Bill 4305 invites profiling and discrimination based on national origin, race, and language ability;

WHEREAS, persons of Hispanic origin may speak Spanish or another language of the Americas regardless of their citizenship, immigration status, or national origin;

WHEREAS, discrimination on the basis of race or national origin is an evil that violates fundamental principles of Justice as stated in the Constitution of the United States of America and in Michigan statute;

WHEREAS, House Bill 4305 would serve to restrict Michigan's economic recovery and robust growth by discouraging immigrants who may contribute to our economy from coming to Michigan;

WHEREAS, House Bill 4305 would violate the Supremacy Clause of the federal Constitution insofar as the federal government has pre-empted the field of immigration, including the enforcement of laws concerning the borders of the United States and citizenship;

WHEREAS, Michigan Compiled Law 18.303 provides in most relevant part that the Hispanic/Latino Commission of Michigan shall, "Make recommendations to the governor and legislature regarding changes in state programs, statutes, and policies;"

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Hispanic/Latino Commission of Michigan does hereby urge Michigan lawmakers to oppose House Bill 4305 and any similar legislation which would invite similar treatment of Hispanics or other ethnic, racial or linguistic minorities in the State of Michigan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be submitted to the Governor and to all Members of the Michigan Legislature.

Given under our hands on this 16th day of March,
in the year of the Lord Two Thousand and eleven.

Commissioner Debra Ehmann
Commissioner Michael Espinoza
Commissioner Frederick Feliciano
Commissioner Rick Garcia
Commissioner Gil Guzmán
Commissioner Olga Hernández-Patino
Commissioner Benjamin Inquilla
Commissioner Art Luna
Commissioner Mike Ramírez
Commissioner Alicia Ramón
Commissioner Art Reyes
Commissioner María Elena Rodríguez
Commissioner Leonard Savala

Lawrence T. Garcia
Lawrence T. Garcia, Commission Chairperson

Marylou Mason
Marylou Mason, Executive Director