



STATE OF MICHIGAN
EXECUTIVE OFFICE
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

BRIAN CALLEY
LT. GOVERNOR

**EXECUTIVE ORDER
No. 2014 – 2**

**CREATION OF THE
MICHIGAN OFFICE FOR NEW AMERICANS**

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, Section 1 of Article V of the Michigan Constitution of 1963 vests the executive power of the state of Michigan in the Governor; and

WHEREAS, Section 2 of Article V of the Michigan Constitution of 1963 empowers the Governor to make changes in the organization of the executive branch or in the assignment of functions among its units that the Governor considers necessary for efficient administration; and

WHEREAS, in the last decennial U.S. Census, Michigan was the only state in the country to suffer a population loss; and

WHEREAS, talented immigrant entrepreneurs, scientists, students, and workers are currently living and working to fuel Michigan's comeback and are a vital component of Michigan's economic engine, tax base, and social and cultural fabric; and

WHEREAS, immigrants are critical to the success of businesses and entrepreneurial activity across the state and are key to Michigan's agricultural and tourism industry; and

WHEREAS, immigration policy is set at the federal level, but the benefits and challenges of immigration are felt at the state and local levels; and

WHEREAS, a proactive policy for attracting and retaining new Americans at the state level will maximize the benefits immigrants bring to the state and its municipalities, while helping immigrants overcome the challenges they face becoming fully integrated; and

WHEREAS, the state of Michigan and its partners in the community foundation, non-profit, and private sectors jointly play a vital role in building upon the strengths of immigrants and enabling their speedy transition to self-sufficiency; and

WHEREAS, it is crucial to Michigan's reinvention, population growth, economic vitality, cultural diversity, and well-being that Michigan is known as a state that

embraces, welcomes, and sustains a diverse population and the economic growth resulting from that diversity;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Richard D. Snyder, Governor of the state of Michigan, by virtue of the power and authority vested in the Governor by the Michigan Constitution of 1963 and Michigan law, order the following:

I. CREATION OF THE MICHIGAN OFFICE FOR NEW AMERICANS

- A. The Michigan Office for New Americans ("Office") is created within the Executive Office of the Governor.
- B. The Governor shall appoint a Director to lead the Office. The Director shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.
- C. The Director of the Office shall be the chief advisor to the Governor and state departments on all matters regarding the formulation and implementation of immigration policies, programs, and procedures.

II. FUNCTIONS OF THE MICHIGAN OFFICE FOR NEW AMERICANS

The Office shall perform the following functions:

- i. Serve as the coordinating office for all executive branch agencies that are responsible for programs related to services for immigrants, including but not limited to the Global Michigan Initiative, and all programs concerning immigrant entrepreneurship, licensing, workforce training, education, housing, healthcare, and quality of life.
- ii. Analyze and make recommendations to the Governor on proposals and policies relating to immigrants, and on the elimination of duplication in existing state programs in these areas.
- iii. Lead the Global Michigan Initiative – a collaborative statewide effort to retain and attract international, advanced degree, and entrepreneurial talent to our state – and develop sustainable partnerships with existing community foundation, non-profit, and private sector service providers already serving immigrant communities statewide.
- iv. Provide information and assistance related to immigration issues to all departments and agencies of the executive branch of government, both directly and by functioning as a clearinghouse for information received from such agencies, other branches of government, other states, and the federal government.

- v. Engage in state and federal advocacy and provide substantive recommendations concerning immigration law and policy to advance state economic and population growth.


III. MISCELLANEOUS

All departments, committees, commissioners, or officers of the state shall give the Michigan Office for New Americans or any member or representative of the Office, any necessary assistance required by the Office so far as that assistance is compatible with its duties.

This Executive Order shall become effective upon filing.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Michigan this _____ day of January in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Fourteen



RICHARD D. SNYDER
GOVERNOR

BY THE GOVERNOR:



SECRETARY OF STATE

FILED WITH SECRETARY OF STATE

ON 1/31/14 AT 3:14 P.M.