

Resolution No. 1058-17

AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION

**Council Members Cummins, Brady,
McCormack, Zone, J. Johnson, Griffin**

Supporting immigrant youth, including those protected by DACA and supporting a federal law that would continue the DACA program and allow a path to citizenship for Dreamers; opposing the withholding of federal funding as a way to pressure local municipalities to enforce federal immigration policies; denouncing anti-immigrant bills that promote racial profiling, discrimination and harassment of immigrant communities; and committing to working with the Jackson administration to establish strong policies to protect vulnerable communities, especially immigrant communities.

WHEREAS, nearly 800,000 young people who came to the United States as children have come forward, passed background checks, and received permission to live and work in America through the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program; with DACA, they have advanced their education, started small businesses, and more fully established themselves as integral members of our society; and

WHEREAS, despite his statements that he will protect Dreamers, the President has rescinded DACA effective about March 2018, calling upon Congress to provide legislation to manage Dreamers; as such, the fate of nearly 800,000 Dreamers is unknown; and

WHEREAS, the President has recently threatened to shut down the federal government in order to coerce Congress to provide funds to build a border wall; moreover, the Trump administration continues to threaten to withhold federal funding from municipalities to pressure municipalities to enforce federal immigration law; and

WHEREAS, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) has renewed its effort to contract with local sheriffs in an attempt to circumvent case law and facilitate deportations; and

WHEREAS, the expansion of deportation and of local enforcement of federal immigration laws could make everyone less safe because when local law enforcement voluntarily cooperates with or works on behalf of ICE, significant gaps in trust and cooperation grow between immigrant communities and local police; some of these practices could expose the city to liability for violations of individuals' constitutional rights; and

WHEREAS, undue collaboration between local law enforcement and ICE will cause fear and insecurity among immigrants and make immigrants less likely to report crimes, act as witnesses in criminal investigations and prosecutions, and provide intelligence to law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, the cooperation of the City's immigrant communities is essential to prevent and solve crimes and maintain public order, safety and security; further, community policing depends on trust between all communities and facilitating deportations will harm the City's efforts at community policing; and

WHEREAS, in May, 2017, the state of Texas passed SB 4, an anti-immigrant bill that promotes racial profiling, discrimination and harassment of immigrant communities; and

WHEREAS, elected officials across Texas have stood up against SB 4 because it harms their ability to keep their communities safe and because it stands in direct conflict to American values of respecting and keeping safe all residents; and

Resolution No. 1058-17

WHEREAS, this Council understands that government has a responsibility to ensure that every individual and every family living in this country has the chance to succeed and therefore denounces any anti-immigrant bill, like Texas' SB 4; and

WHEREAS, this Council believes that countries whose Temporary Protected Status (TPS) designation is set to expire be granted TPS extensions so that eligible nationals from these countries may continue to receive work and travel authorization; and

WHEREAS, the City of Cleveland values its ethnic, racial, linguistic, and socio-economic diversity as a source of strength and this Council is committed to ensuring that all our city's residents live and pursue their livelihoods in peace and prosperity; and

WHEREAS, this Council is committed to working with the mayor to establish strong policies to protect vulnerable communities, especially immigrant communities, including and to the extent legally possible: limiting the co-optation of local police by ICE; strong privacy protections limiting the sharing of confidential personal information with federal agencies; adoption of clear and transparent protocols for the certification of U-Visas; vigorous opposition to any government registry based on religion or national origin; further this Council is committed to maintaining community stakeholder engagement around implementation of policies that preserve and protect our diverse and inclusive city; and

WHEREAS, this resolution constitutes an emergency measure for the immediate preservation of public peace, property, health or safety, now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CLEVELAND:

Section 1. That this Council supports immigrant youth, including those protected by DACA and supports a federal law that would continue the DACA program and allow a path to citizenship for Dreamers; opposes the withholding of federal funding as a way to pressure local municipalities to enforce federal immigration policies; denounces anti-immigrant bills that promote racial profiling, discrimination and harassment of immigrant communities; and commits to working with the Jackson administration to establish strong policies to protect vulnerable communities, especially immigrant communities.

Section 2. That the Clerk of Council is hereby directed to transmit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, all members of Congress and all members of the Ohio House and Senate.

Section 3. That this resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and, provided it receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to Council, it shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its adoption and approval by the Mayor; otherwise it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

