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### CITY OF OAKLAND



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Date: January 12, 2017

To: City Council

From: Councilmember At-Large Rebecca Kaplan

Re: Resolution To Demand President Obama Take Action To Protect Children And Youths Enrolled In Deferred Action For Childhood Arrivals (DACA)

Dear Colleagues on the City Council and Members of the Public,

The Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program (DACA) that President Obama enacted in 2012 by Presidential Executive Order is the most important and far reaching immigration reform adopted during President Obama's eightyear Presidency; and offered about two million youth the opportunity to come out of the shadows and live free from fear of imminent deportation.

One of President-elect Trump's election promises was to attack DACA, and the Trump Administration has declared its intention to deport DACA youth. With President Obama's term quickly coming to an end, it is imperative that we urge him to take necessary steps to protect DACA youth.

For this reason, we urge you to support this Resolution, which calls upon President Obama to use the same Executive Powers he used to create DACA to protect the more than 700,000 DACA enrollees from deportation. The Resolution will be heard at the City Council Meeting on January 17, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

Councilmember At-Large Rebecca Kaplan

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Approved as to Form and Legality City Attorney

#### **OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL**

**RESOLUTION NO.** 

C.M.S.

Introduced by Councilmember Kaplan

# **RESOLUTION TO DEMAND PRESIDENT OBAMA TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT CHILDREN AND YOUTHS ENROLLED IN DEFERRED ACTION FOR CHILDHOOD ARRIVALS (DACA)**

WHEREAS, the Oakland City Council has a proud history of defending immigrant rights and advocating, in particular, for the rights of immigrant students in our schools and communities; and

WHEREAS, the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program (DACA) that President Obama enacted in 2012 by Presidential Executive Order is the most important and far reaching immigration reform adopted during President Obama's eight-year Presidency; and offered about two million youth the opportunity to come out of the shadows and live free from fear of imminent deportation; and

WHEREAS, DACA offered many new rights and opportunities and allowed undocumented youth to live as near-citizens; and

WHEREAS, to qualify for DACA, undocumented youth had to have come to the United States as children, resided in the United States continuously since 2007, and be either a high school student or have received a GED or high school diploma; and

WHEREAS, applying for DACA required giving the government extensive personal and familial information that could prove the person applying met the criteria for entrance to the program; and

WHEREAS, hundreds of thousands of undocumented youth relied on the promises of the Obama administration that the data they provided would never be used against them or their families enrolled in DACA, and took this grave risk in order to advance their futures; and

WHEREAS, one of Donald Trump's election promises was to attack DACA. The Trump administration has declared its intention to deport the DACA youth first for one reason: they already have the information to go after them; and

WHEREAS, today, one of the most urgent tasks to defend undocumented immigrant youth is to demand President Obama use the same Executive Powers he used to create DACA to protect the more than 700,000 DACA enrollees from deportation; and

WHEREAS, there are a number of ways President Obama could defeat Trump's plan, such as granting full amnesty or issuing a Presidential Pardon to all the DACA enrollees as President Carter did for 200,000 draft dodgers after the Vietnam War; and

**WHEREAS,** if DACA program participants do not receive protection, this would leave families in disarray and in danger of being torn apart; and

WHEREAS, if pardon or amnesty is not granted to DACA youth and young adults, they will personally be in danger for having participated in a program our government invited them into, causing fear and alienation; and

WHEREAS, in 2006, massive immigrant rights marches shut down cities, schools, factories, universities, docks and transportation. That movement defeated the anti-immigrant bill, HR4437. Given a clear set of demands and a strategic perspective, supporters of immigrant rights, democracy, and equality have the power we need to protect DACA and build the immigrant rights movement; now, therefore be it

**RESOLVED:** That the Oakland City Council calls on President Obama to use his Presidential powers to protect DACA youth and stop Donald Trump from carrying out his racist campaign to deport the 700,000 immigrant students, youth, and young adults enrolled in DACA.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, \_\_\_\_\_

#### PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - BROOKS, CAMPBELL WASHINGTON, GALLO, GIBSON MCELHANEY, GUILLEN, KALB, KAPLAN, AND PRESIDENT REID

NOES -

ABSENT -

**ABSTENTION -**

ATTEST:\_\_

LaTonda Simmons City Clerk and Clerk of the Council of the City of Oakland, California