

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-09

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELL, CA SUPPORTING A COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO IMMIGRATION REFORM

WHEREAS, the City of Bell is a diverse, largely immigrant city with residents that include immigrants and refugees from many parts of the world who work, own homes, operate businesses, and contribute to the economic, social, and cultural well-being of the City; and,

WHEREAS, the United States is a beacon of liberty with due process and civil rights firmly embedded in the democratic principles of this nation, principles that must be reflected in our immigration system; and

WHEREAS, years of gridlock in Congress on immigration reform have created a broken immigration system which has led to harmful social and economic implications for the residents, many of them living in Los Angeles County and in the Southeast region, where the City of Bell is situated; and

WHEREAS, it is important that immigration reform preserve families and keep them together, regardless of the immigration status, race, ethnicity, religion, gender, national origin, age, disability, family structure, sexual orientation, gender identity, including same-sex couples, and provide sufficient family-based channels for migration in the future; and

WHEREAS, the City of Bell supports, and immigration reform should include, an efficient and safe border, including the implementation of policies that take into account the protection of human rights and human dignity; and

WHEREAS, the City of Bell supports, and immigration reform should include, a pathway to citizenship for the over 11 million undocumented immigrants living within our nation's borders; and

WHEREAS, deportation is the biggest roadblock to citizenship, as a legalization agenda is not served by policies that criminalize immigrants; and

WHEREAS, it is equally important to provide a pathway to citizenship for those individuals who were brought to or entered into the United States without proper documentation as young children and have been raised and educated in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the current visa backlog for family-sponsored immigration petitions is over 20 years long and deters individuals wanting to come to the United States from doing so; and

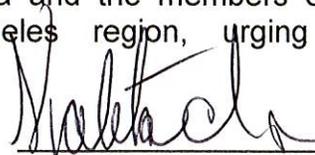
WHEREAS, reform must clear out the visa backlog, streamline the process for procuring visas, and include business accountability measures to

ensure that U.S. companies have the resources they need when talent is not available.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Bell, CA supports the work of the 113th Congress to create a reasonable, bi-partisan and comprehensive approach to reform the currently broken immigration system that is in the best interests of the City of Bell, the greater Los Angeles region, and the nation, as described in this Resolution.

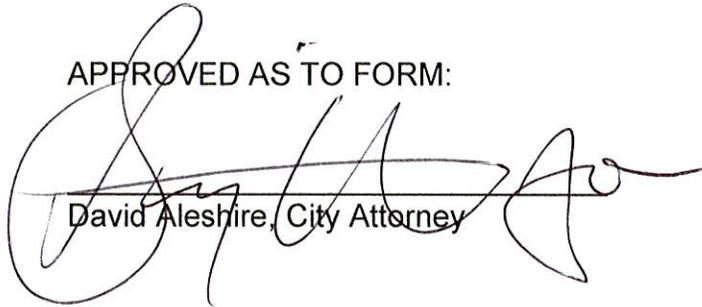
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Clerk is directed to send a copy of this Resolution to the President of the United States and the Honorable members of the 113th Congress and State officials who represent the Los Angeles region, urging a comprehensive, fair and just immigration reform.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Clerk is directed to send a copy of this Resolution to President Obama and the members of the 113th Congress who represent the Los Angeles region, urging immediate implementation of immigration reform.



Violeta Alvarez, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



David Aleshire, City Attorney

CERTIFICATE OF ATTESTATION AND ORIGINALITY

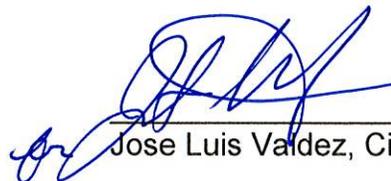
I, Jose Luis Valdez, City Clerk of the City of Bell, hereby attest to and certify that the foregoing resolution is the original resolution adopted by the Bell City Council at its regular meeting held on the 12th day of February, 2014, by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Romero, Saleh, Valencia, Mayor Pro Tem Quintana and Mayor Alvarez

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None



Jose Luis Valdez, City Clerk