

Sample CIR Resolution

Below is a Sample Resolution that can be used for a city or county level ordinance or executive order endorsing the need for comprehensive immigration reform. Passing local ordinances is a powerful way to demonstrate the need for CIR, create a positive space for immigrants in our community, and send a positive message to our Washington Members of Congress that cities and counties across Washington are calling for them to take action on immigration reform in 2010 and support them.

Use www.census.gov to insert specific percentages for your city or county. Also, the resolution will be even more powerful if a few clauses are added that emphasize the importance of immigrants to your specific county or state. Contact Sarah@weareoneamerica.org for help making the resolution specific to your area.

RESOLUTION _____

A RESOLUTION endorsing the need for comprehensive immigration reform, which promotes the reunification of families, provides legal status with a path to earned citizenship, a plan for current and future worker flows, due process and civil liberty protections, and immigrant integration.

WHEREAS the United States of America was founded by immigrants who traveled from around the world to seek a better life;

WHEREAS, a significant proportion (___ percent) of ___ County's residents immigrated from abroad and comprise ___ percent of our labor force; making immigration reform of crucial importance to this State; and

WHEREAS, ___ County recognizes the clear contributions immigrants make to the U.S. economy and society in all sectors; that undocumented workers fill positions in key industries such as agriculture that contribute greatly to the gross product of our state; and that Washington's economy is reliant on immigrants as workers, consumers, business owners; and

WHEREAS, the United States urgently needs legislation to correct the failings of our immigration system, to recognize the crucial contributions immigrants make to our nation, to enable employers to legally hire needed immigrant workers, to protect all workers, regardless of immigration status, from mistreatment by employers, to facilitate family reunification, and to restore due process protections within the immigration legal system; and

WHEREAS, comprehensive immigration reform would address the realities of children, now 23 percent of all Washington children, in immigrant families by helping build healthy families and

communities in our state by bringing immigrants out of the shadows; and minimize the criminalization of undocumented workers and their employers; and

WHEREAS, comprehensive immigration reform would give undocumented immigrants who have been living and working in the United States a path to permanent legal status and citizenship; and would create legal and orderly processes for people who want to come to the United States to work; and

WHEREAS, comprehensive immigration reform would work to eliminate the tremendous backlogs in order to effectively reunite the families who are already here and have been separated for far too long by the legal immigration backlog process; and

WHEREAS, comprehensive immigration reform would respect the due process protections of all individuals in the United States in a time when our country seeks greater national security; and

WHEREAS, comprehensive immigration reform would support our state's commitment to the full integration of newcomers by providing immigrants with quality English instruction, the tools necessary for meaningful citizenship, and opportunities to move up the economic ladder.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY the _____ Council of the State of Washington:

_____ City or County supports comprehensive immigration reform that includes the elements listed here and respectfully urges the Congress of the United States to address comprehensive immigration reform.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this resolution be sent to each member of the Washington Congressional Delegation.