

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-34

AFFIRMING BELLINGHAM CITY COUNCIL SUPPORT FOR DEFERRED ACTION FOR CHILDHOOD ARRIVALS (DACA) IMMIGRANT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Bellingham City Council remains committed to protecting and supporting our immigrant community; and

WHEREAS, the Bellingham City Council passed Resolution No. 2017-10 on February 13, 2017, which states, "That we will not turn our backs on immigrants, regardless of documentation status"; and

WHEREAS, Washington State Attorney General Bob Ferguson and 19 other attorneys general from across the United States addressed to the President of the United States on July 21, 2017, urging the President to maintain and defend the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program that has served 800,000 young immigrants since it was established in 2012; and

WHEREAS, the DACA Program supports approximately 17,000 students in Washington State and members of our Bellingham community; and

WHEREAS, our region and country's agricultural economy is dependent upon the qualified and skilled labor force largely consisting of immigrants; and

WHEREAS, for many children of immigrant workers, our City and County are the only homes that the DACA children have known; and

WHEREAS, DACA offers students an opportunity to live out the American Dream and a chance to continue education, continue work, continue to contribute to our economy and it provides an opportunity for students to actualize their own dreams; and

WHEREAS, the termination of DACA would likely lead to harmful trauma, hurt local and national economies and create unrest here and throughout our country; and

WHEREAS, Bellingham is the county seat in Whatcom County, and the Bellingham City Council recognizes the invaluable impact immigrants have had, and will continue to have, on our community's past, present and future; and

WHEREAS, many residents of Bellingham join us in working to support our immigrant community.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELLINGHAM WHOLEHEARTEDLY JOINS WITH ATTORNEY GENERAL FERGUSON

City of Bellingham
City Attorney
210 Lottie Street
Bellingham, Washington 98225
360-778-8270

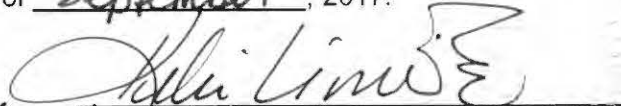
AND HIS FELLOW ATTORNEYS GENERAL IN STRONGLY ADVOCATING FOR THE SUPPORT OF DACA.

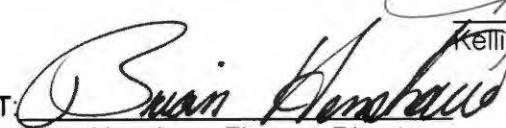
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT The Bellingham City Council asks the President of the United States of America and United States Congress to reject any attempt to rescind or weaken DACA and, instead, to adamantly champion its continuation now and for many years to come.

PASSED by the Council this 11th day of September, 2017.

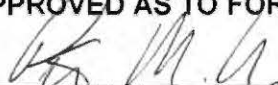

Michael Lilliquist, Council President

APPROVED by me this 19th day of September, 2017.


Kelli Linville, Mayor

ATTEST: 
Brian Henshaw, Finance Director

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Office of the City Attorney

City of Bellingham
City Attorney
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