



League of United Latin American Citizens

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF FREEDOM OF SPEECH, FREEDOM OF ASSEMBLY, AND AGAINST ESCALATING REPRESSION

WHEREAS, in 1929, the founders of the League of Latin American Citizens, (LULAC) joined together to establish an organization that would become the largest, oldest and successful Hispanic civil rights and service organization in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Congress passed and President Obama signed into law, on December 30, 2011, the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) which contains provisions allowing for the indefinite military detention of individuals, including U.S. citizens, without charge or trial, anywhere in the world including in the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, individuals gathering around the nation to nonviolently protest inequitable government policies and widespread corporate greed have suffered repression and retaliation by police and government officials; and

WHEREAS, in September 2010, 23 anti-war and labor union activists in Minneapolis and Chicago and others around the country experienced FBI raids, confiscation of property, chilling subpoenas to testify before a grand jury purportedly investigating “material support” of “terrorist” groups (although no charges and no indictments have been produced since the first raids in September 2010); and

WHEREAS, there have been hundreds of such cases pursued by the FBI over the last decade, mainly targeting Muslims and Arab Americans, without evidence of the planning of any criminal activity; and

WHEREAS, states across the country are drafting laws to criminalize freedom of assembly;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the League of United Latin American Citizens reaffirms its commitment to the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution that “Congress shall make no law . . . abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble”; and

BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED that the League of United Latin American Citizens opposes indefinite military detention and advocates that section of the NDAA be repealed; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the League of United Latin American Citizens moves forward to ensure these rights and provide for their protection within every precinct, town, city, county, state and federal jurisdiction in the United States and its territories.

Voted & approved by the National Assembly of the 2017 LULAC National Convention on July 8, 2017.

Roger C. Rocha, Jr.
LULAC National President