



League of United Latin American Citizens

LULAC RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF FAMILY REUNIFICATION

WHEREAS, thousands of children have been taken from their parents by U.S. agents in an effort to deter families from entering the United States, seeking asylum and removes family reunification as a central element of U.S. policy;

WHEREAS, criminalizing immigrants fleeing violence and poverty in their homelands undermines due process and fails to recognize the powerful and complex forces pushing them to risk the perilous journey north, including decades of unfair trade laws, military interventions, and the suppression of economic and democratic developments, often propagated by our own government;

WHEREAS, The Flores settlement mandates that children be released to a parent, legal guardian, adult relative or licensed program and,

WHEREAS, The Flores settlement also mandates that upon taking a minor into custody, DHA must make and record a prompt and continuous effort toward family reunification and release, as well as maintain up-to-date records of minors held for longer than 72 hours, including biographical information and hearing dates.

WHEREAS, Pope Francis has beseeched the United States government to stop breaking apart families, calling the separation of immigrant children from their parents “immoral.” He expressed support for the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops who wrote:

“Our government has the discretion in our laws to ensure that young children are not separated from their parents and exposed to irreparable harm and trauma. Families are the foundational element of our society and they must be able to stay together,”

WHEREAS, a bipartisan group of 75 U.S. attorneys has petitioned the Trump Administration to cease the practice from a legal and moral standpoint, stating, “Collectively as former United State Attorneys, we have prosecuted tens of thousands of cases involving far more serious crimes than misdemeanor illegal entry offenses. And even in those far more serious cases, decisions involving the separation of children from their parents were made with extraordinary caution... Today, by contrast, your Zero Tolerance policy has produced a tragic and unsustainable result, without taking into account each family’s specific circumstances.”

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the California League of United Latin American Citizens, that the California League of United Latin American Citizens call upon the Trump Administration to (1) cease and desist the separation of children from their families and (2) return children currently in federal custody or in custody of non-family members, to their parents.

Submitted by: LULAC of RIVERSIDE Council #3190

Voted & approved by the National Assembly of the 2019 LULAC National Convention on July 13, 2019.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Domingo Garcia". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial 'D'.

Domingo Garcia
LULAC National President