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Resolution in Support of Protection from Deportation and a Path to Permanent Residency for Beneficiaries of DACA, TPS, and DED

Contra Costa Labor Council, AFL-CIO

Whereas, more than 1,100,000 hardworking men and women stand to lose their work authorization and legal status in this country unless Congress takes steps to defend Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), Temporary Protected Status (TPS) and Deferred Enforced Departure (DED) who's protections have been cancelled by the Trump administration; and

Whereas, our entire workforce benefits from these programs that allow people to live and work without fear in our country and we will all be harmed if these workers lose their status; and

Whereas, there are more than 800,000 DACA recipients in this country who have grown up here, gone to school and even served in the military. There are more than 320,000 TPS holders who have been working, paying taxes, contributing to our economy and belonging to our Unions. Many had lived here for decades, purchased homes and raise families that include U.S. born children; and

Whereas, without legislative action for permanent solutions, more than 300,000 TPS & DED holders could be uprooted this year, including South Sudan in May, Nepal in June, Haiti in July and El Salvador in September; and

Whereas, TPS is a successful program that serves important humanitarian purposes while helping to raise wages, support a stable workforce and reduce exploitation. Studies have shown that TPS holders have a workforce participation rate of 88.5%, with concentrations in construction and service industries; and

Whereas, terminating these protections will separate families, force workers into the shadows, and cause far reaching harm in industries across the country. Termination of TPS would lead to an estimated \$45 billion reduction and gross domestic product, an immediate \$69 billion reduction in tax contributions and an estimated \$1 billion in employer costs; and

Whereas, ending TPS protections will only serve to expand the pool of vulnerable workers in our labor market and force a growing number of immigrants and union members to work under a cloud of fear. Stripping the status and work permits from long-term, tax paying members of our society is not in the interest of working people; and

Whereas, the dream and promise act of 2019 H.R. 6 would provide protections from deportation and offer a well-earn path to permanent residency to working people who have played by the rules for decades; and

Therefore, be it resolved, the Contra Costa Labor Council, AFL-CIO hereby commits to (1) sponsoring an educational forum; (2) coordinating/organizing delegate support; (3) organizing presentations at Delegates and executive committee meetings; (4) supporting demonstrations, protests and direct actions that aid the passage of the Dream and Promise Act H.R. 6; and

Be it further resolved, the Contra Costa Labor Council, AFL-CIO urges its affiliates to engage in organizing their members to be involved, to hold educational forums and to have presentations at membership or executive board meetings; and

Be it further resolved, the Contra Costa Labor Council, AFL-CIO urges its affiliate members to contact their Senators and Congressional Representatives, as well as sending letters to representatives of districts in their jurisdiction; and

Be it finally resolved; the Contra Costa Labor Council, AFL-CIO will send copies of this resolution to Bay Area labor councils urging them to take similar action.

Submitted by SF LCLAA and CWA 9400 on June 18th, 2019..

Adopted by the Contra Costa Labor Council's delegate body on June 19th, 2019.