SAN MATEO COUNTY CENTRAL LABOR COUNCIL RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING AN END TO THE DEPORTATION CRISIS AND A ROAD MAP TO CITIZENSHIP FOR ASPIRING AMERICANS

WHEREAS:
Every day, millions of undocumented people—young and old, and who aspire to be citizens of our great nation—contribute to our communities, our schools, our economy, and our country, yet are denied a voice in the workplace and essential rights in our society for no other reason than their lack of “papers”:

WHEREAS:
An unprecedented number of people—more than one thousand per day—are being deported, causing fear in communities and workplaces around the country, tearing families apart and preventing workers from exercising fundamental rights;

WHEREAS:
In 2014, the number of deportations under the Obama Administration has reached 2 million, more than any other administration in U.S. history;

WHEREAS:
At the same time, private prison companies like Geo Group Inc. and Corrections Corporation of America—both members of the right wing policy group, ALEC—each continue to make more than a $1.7 billion dollars in profits from these deportations.

WHEREAS:
Children who are U.S. citizens with at least one parent who is undocumented live in fear of having their parents deported, which deeply impacts their lives, development and their ability to learn;

WHEREAS:
The crisis of record deportations and family separations is profoundly inconsistent with our values as Trade Unionists and contrary to the principles of a vibrant democratic society;

WHEREAS:
The ultimate solution to this crisis is a change in law;

WHEREAS:
Relief from the deportation crisis would make it easier to secure fair and humane immigration reform;

WHEREAS:
The President has previously exercised his executive authority to grant Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), which received broad support from the public and has proven to be of great benefit to our nation;

WHEREAS:
The President has broad authority to immediately grant administrative relief and reduce the number of deportations;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:
That the San Mateo County Central Labor Council which represents the voices of more than 65,000 working families in San Mateo County calls on the Administration to ease the deportation crisis that is devastating work places, families and communities, and to do so now. The San Mateo County Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO will continue to work with allies to promote comprehensive immigration reform based on the principles outlined in this resolution and will communicate this position to the California congressional delegation.

Adopted by the San Mateo County Central Labor Council on May 12, 2014