[Immigrant Verification]

URGING GOVERNOR GRAY DAVIS TO RESCIND EXECUTIVE ORDER W-135-96 AND TO REPEAL OR WITHDRAW REGULATIONS TO PREVENT FURTHER HARM TO THOUSANDS OF CALIFORNIA RESIDENTS AND URGING THE STATE LEGISLATURE TO CONTINUE CRITICAL SERVICES TO ALL CALIFORNIA RESIDENTS REGARDLESS OF IMMIGRATION STATUS.

WHEREAS, On August 27, 1996, Governor Wilson issued Executive Order W-135-96 instructing all state agencies, departments, boards and commissions to implement the provisions of federal welfare reform relating to undocumented immigrants "as expeditiously as reasonably practicable;" and

WHEREAS, State of California administrative agencies subsequently examined their programs and developed a list of over 200 programs targeted for implementation of immigration verification systems; and

WHEREAS, During 1997 and 1998, numerous agencies issued regulations to require verification of citizenship or immigration status for all applicants to their programs, some of which have taken effect, and others of which are awaiting implementation or are currently enjoined by court order; and

WHEREAS, These actions by Governor Wilson were overly broad, premature, and misguided, moving far beyond the requirements of federal welfare reform and in a significantly faster and more sweeping manner than any other state in implementing immigration-related provisions of welfare reform; and

WHEREAS, The regulations would require all persons requesting services to produce birth certificates or other documentation or be denied critical services, including prenatal care, long-term care, community mental health, health care for seriously ill children and seniors, certain affordable housing, and dozens of other state and federal funded health and social services; and

WHEREAS, Denial of these critical services to residents is inhumane as well as unsound fiscal and public policy, as demonstrated by numerous studies that prove the cost effectiveness of providing preventive and other supportive services such as prenatal care, housing, mental health, and primary health care, rather than more costly care at a later date for more serious problems which also jeopardize the health and safety of all community members; and

WHEREAS, Requiring verification for most of these services would also create major hardships for qualified beneficiaries such as U.S. citizens and legal permanent residents, particularly those who are indigent, homeless, in crisis, or mentally impaired; and

WHEREAS, Implementation of immigration verification requirements in California is resulting in denial or delay of critical services to an extraordinary number of California residents including U.S. citizens and both documented and undocumented immigrants; and

WHEREAS, Implementation of immigration verification requirements in these programs would result in an increased burden to local governments, including San Francisco, by requiring increased bureaucracy, and that health and social service providers function as immigration agents in checking documentation of persons who need

services, and by requiring local governments to address the needs of growing numbers of residents who would no longer be eligible to receive critical state and federal funded services; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco urges California Governor Gray Davis to rescind Executive Order W-135-96 and to repeal or withdraw all regulations approved by the State Office of Administrative Law or pending approval, in order to prevent further harm to thousands of California residents; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the State Legislature to support all legislative and budget activities that promote the objectives of this resolution to continue critical services to all California residents regardless of immigration status, including support of SB 82 (Vasconcellos) and AB 52 (Cedillo); and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to his Honor, the Mayor, with a request that he transmit copies to Governor Gray Davis, as well as the delegation from San Francisco in the State Legislature, with a request that they take all action necessary to achieve the objectives of this resolution.



City and County of San Francisco

City Hall 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Tails

Resolution

File Number:

990414

Date Passed:

Resolution urging Governor Gray Davis to rescind Executive Order W-135-96 and to repeal or withdraw regulations to prevent further harm to thousands of California residents and urging the State Legislature to continue critical services to all California residents regardless of immigration status.

March 8, 1999 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED

Ayes: 10 - Ammiano, Becerril, Bierman, Brown, Katz, Kaufman, Leno, Newsom,

Yaki, Yee

Absent: 1 - Teng

File No. 990414

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on March 8, 1999 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Gloria L. Young

elerk of the Board

MAR 1 9 1999

Date Approved

Mayor Willie L. Brown Jr.