

**Texas State LULAC Convention
Hilton Lincoln Centre
5410 Lyndon B. Johnson Freeway, Dallas, TX 75240
Resolutions Report
Adopted June 7, 2009
Submitted by Resolutions Committee Chair Jesse Garcia**

Resolutions Approved by the General Assembly

Resolution 1: “Supporting the Nomination and Recognition of Judge Sonia Sotomayor for Supreme Court Justice”

Resolution 2: “Support of a Ventanilla de Educacion”

Resolution 3: “LULAC Reaffirms its Support for the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors Act – The DREAM Act”

Resolution 4: “Employment for All”

Resolution 5: “Dallas 2012 National Convention”

Resolution 6: “Response to Intervention for English Language Learners”

Resolution 7: “Fair Trade Agreement Resolution”

Resolution 8: “Resolution Regarding CVS Caremark Corp”

Resolution 9: “April 6 to be Recognized as a Texas Holiday”

Resolution 10: “Oilfield Worker Stability”

Resolution 11: “Future State Conventions”

Resolution 12: “Resolution on Hutto Federal Detention”

Resolution 13: “Resolution for HISD to Cancel Contract with For-Profit Alternative School”

Resolution 14: “LULAC Opposes Any Changes to the Margaret and Gilbert Herrera Student Intake Center”

Resolution 15: “Vote of Confidence Resolution”

Resolution 16: “Ser-H-GAC Resolution”

Resolution 17: “287 (g) Resolution”

Resolutions Not Approved by the General Assembly

Resolution 18: “Resolution 287(g) and Elected Officials”

Resolution 1

Title: “Supporting the nomination and recognition of Judge Sonia Sotomayor for Supreme Court Justice”

Submitted by: National LULAC President Rosa Rosales, member of San Antonio LULAC Council 649

Whereas, the current national LULAC National President Rosa Rosales urges a swift confirmation; and

Whereas, LULAC will work hard to ensure that Judge Sotomayor will receive a quick confirmation from the U.S. Senate; and

Whereas, Judge Sotomayor has received bipartisan support in the past and we expect strong bipartisan support for her as she stands on the threshold of making history for the Latino community; and

Whereas, Sotomayor is a summa cum laude graduate of Princeton University and an editor of the Yale Law Journal, Sotomayor is an outstanding jurist who has had a long and distinguished career as a public servant, and since 1998, has served on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit; and

Whereas, she was nominated by former President Clinton, Judge Sotomayor received broad bipartisan support in the Senate. Before her appointment to the Second Circuit, she served as a District Court Judge for the Southern District of New York a position for which she was nominated by former President George H.W. Bush and confirmed unanimously by the Senate. Even prior to her tenure on the federal bench, Judge Sotomayor demonstrated her commitment to public service and the rule of law by working as an Assistant District Attorney in the New York County District Attorney’s Office; and

Whereas, we thank President Obama for making history again by making the first nomination of a Latino to the U.S. Supreme Court; and

Whereas, the Supreme Court should reflect the diverse population of the United States to ensure that our nation’s highest court understands the unique circumstances of Americans; and

Whereas, President Obama’s nomination of Judge Sotomayor to the Supreme Court brings an outstanding jurist with more experience than any Supreme Court nominee in one hundred years along with the experience of growing up in a low income Latino family.

Resolution 2

Title: "Support of a Ventanilla de Educacion"

Submitted by: Collin County Council 4537

Whereas, the League of United Latin American Citizens throughout its history has committed itself to the principal that Hispanics in the United States have equal access to opportunities in education and information about education; and

Whereas, the League of United Latin American Citizens supports the purpose of fostering and enlarging the opportunities for education and training of all Hispanics, including immigrants, to the United States; and

Whereas, approximately 450 people seek help from each Mexican Consulate in Texas daily; and

Whereas, visitors to Consulates need convenient access to information regarding preschool through university-level education;

Now, Therefore, be it resolved, the League of United Latin American Citizens fully supports the establishment of a Ventanilla de Educacion in the Mexican Consulates of Texas.

Resolution 3

Title: "LULAC Reaffirms its Support for the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors Act – The DREAM Act"

Submitted by: LULAC District 14 and Austin LULAC Council 4877

Whereas the League of United Latin American Citizens supports the purpose of fostering and enlarging the opportunities for training, education, civil rights, job opportunities, housing, economic development, and welfare of all Hispanic citizens of the United States; and

Whereas, it is the philosophy upon which LULAC was founded that education and training is the cornerstone of progress; and

Whereas, the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors Act – The DREAM Act" (S. 729/HR 1751) will provide undocumented immigrant youth in the United States with conditional residency and a pathway to citizenship provided they came here before the age of 16 and maintained continuous residence for 5 years, graduate from High School or obtain a GED, attend 2 years of college or join the military and have no criminal records; and

Whereas the legislation has bipartisan support in both house of congress; and

Now therefore be it resolved at the 2009 LULAC State Convention held in Dallas, Texas, on June 7, 2009, by majority vote of the delegates present that the League of United Latin American Citizens wholeheartedly support the DREAM act and urge the U.S. Senators and Congress members to vote for the act.

Resolution 4

Title: "Employment for All"

Submitted by: LULAC District 3 and Dallas LULAC Council 4871

Whereas, the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) is the nation's oldest and largest Latino organization, founded in Corpus Christi, Texas, on February 17, 1929; and

Whereas, LULAC, throughout its history has committed itself to the principles the Latinos have equal access to the opportunities in employment, education, housing and healthcare; and

Whereas, LULAC has supported opportunities for economic development, political influence, civil rights and the general welfare of all Latinos in the United States; and

Whereas, when LULAC states "all Latinos" it includes those in the Latino community who are Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender; and

Whereas, U.S. employment law does not protect LGBT persons from discrimination and/or termination based on sexual orientation or gender identity and expression; and

Whereas, the most recent poll conducted by Newsweek (Princeton Survey Research Associates International, Dec. 3-4, 2008) on the subject of protections in the workplace found that 87 percent favor equal rights for gays and lesbians in terms of job opportunities; and

Whereas, it is a fundamental American value that people who do their jobs, pay their taxes, and contribute to their communities should not be singled out for unfair workplace discrimination; and

Whereas, LGBT people face pervasive discrimination in the workplace which prevent them from working and contributing to society; and

Whereas, the great cities of Austin, Dallas, El Paso and Houston have passed local ordinances prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity and expression in the workplace, and

Now therefore, be it resolved, that LULAC, which supports the current employment protections of race, color, religion, sex national origin, disability, age and veteran status, advocates the expansion of these protections to include all Americans; and

Be it resolved, that LULAC appeals to the U.S. Congress to pass and U.S. President Barack Obama to follow up on his campaign pledge to sign into law the Employee Non Discrimination Act, which extends workplace protections to LGBT Americans.

Resolution 5

Title: "Dallas 2012 National Convention"

Submitted by: LULAC District 3

Whereas, the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) is the nation's oldest and largest Latino organization, founded in Corpus Christi, Texas, on February 17, 1929; and

Whereas, LULAC, throughout its history, has committed itself to the principles that Latinos have equal access to the opportunities in employment, education, housing and healthcare; and

Whereas, North Texas, specifically Dallas, has experienced tremendous growth in LULAC chapters; and

Whereas, LULAC acknowledges the leadership of North Texas leaders in battling bigotry in Irving, fighting anti-immigrant policies in Farmers Branch, preserving the legacy of Cesar Chavez in Dallas and supporting State Representative Rafael Anchia — a LULAC member from Dallas — by sending him to Austin to lead the fight against the Voter ID bill and preserving the rights of 100,000 to 500,000 Texans; and

Whereas, LULAC recognizes Dallas enthusiastically wants the National Convention in 2012 to showcase the city's great attractions which includes 10 entertainment districts, 7 professional sports teams and more shopping centers per capita than any other U.S. city; and

Whereas, LULAC understands the tough economic times we are under and sees the benefit of Dallas being centrally located in the continental United States and has cheaper air fares and affordable hotel rates to make our members' stay easier on the pocketbook; and

Whereas, Dallas is the home to several Fortune 500 corporations' regional headquarters — businesses that are major LULAC contributors; and

Be it resolved, Texas LULAC endorses Dallas as the location for the 2012 National LULAC Convention.

Resolution 6

Title: “Response to Intervention for English Language Learners”

Submitted by: LULAC District 3 and Collin County LULAC Council 4537

Whereas, the League of United Latin American Citizens has actively advanced education for all segments of society, and

Whereas, LULAC continues to be a strong supporter of bilingual education, the concept of “equal access;”

Whereas, Response To Intervention (RTI), through the reauthorization of Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) has been established as a vehicle to assist children in need of specialized academic intervention; and

Whereas, RTI has been focused on the English only classroom;

Now therefore, be it resolved, that Texas LULAC supports expanding the concept of RTI to English Language Learners students within English only classrooms and bilingual classrooms.

Resolution 7

Title: “Fair Trade Agreement Resolution”

Submitted by: Jaime P. Martinez, President LULAC 4626; LULAC National Treasurer – Labor Advisor

Whereas, in the midst of the current economic crisis it is clear that a new U.S. trade policy is necessary, one that creates living-wage, sustainable jobs for the majority of people in the U.S., and trade partners countries while promoting democracy, human rights, labor standards, a healthy environment, and access to essential services; and

Whereas, LULAC opposes the pending U.S.-Colombian Free Trade Agreement (FTA), and it has in the past opposed the U.S.-Peru Free Trade Agreement and the Central America Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA) because these pacts did not meet these goals of fair trade; and

Whereas, LULAC has succeeded in bringing to national attention to how the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) has not only sent millions of good-paying jobs overseas, but how its agriculture provisions have forced rural Mexicans to leave home and risk their lives crossing the U.S. border to be able to support their families, and how its foreign investor provisions threaten sovereignty and the environment by undermining Latin American nations’ control of their natural resources; and

Whereas, LULAC is eager to work with President Obama and Congress to realize their campaign promises to fundamentally revise U.S. trade policy to address these longstanding concerns and to build a truly fair trade model; and

Whereas, since NAFTA was enacted, 2.5 million rural Mexicans have been displaced by dumping subsidized U.S. farm goods, contributing to a 60 percent increase in immigration to the U.S. due to loss of family-supporting economic options at home, and whereas, the Colombia and Panama FTAs will also lead to dumping of farm goods in Panama and Colombia, where much of the populations rely on agricultural livelihoods; and

Whereas, the Colombian Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, in a 2004 study (El Agro Colombiano Frente al TLC con Estados Unidos), found that free trade in agriculture would lead to a 35 percent increase in unemployment among Colombia’s large rural population and would force small farmers to choose between “migration to the cities or other countries... working in drug cultivation zones, or affiliating with illegal armed groups;” and

Whereas the Panamanian small farmers’ group ONAGRO, in a 2007 letter to the U.S. Congress states that “We are certain that the FTA will cause great displacement in the Panamanian agricultural sector, on which 40 percent of our nation depends either directly or indirectly. We Panamanians do not want to have to follow the Mexicans and Central Americans in the flood of immigration to the United States, where many risk their lives trying to be able to make a living;” and

Whereas, Colombia is already experiencing a displacement crisis that has surpassed that of Darfur in the Sudan to lead the world with over 4 million internally displaced (IDPs); and

Whereas, the pending Colombia and Panama FTAs’ investment rules replicate, and in some cases even expand on the excessive investor privileges and privatized investor-state private enforcement mechanisms found in NAFTA and CAFTA; and

Whereas these rules grant extraordinary protections for foreign investors which help move good-paying jobs offshore, but prevent democratically elected governments from enacting measures to regulate investment and ensure it contributes to a country’s development; and

Whereas LULAC recognizes that under such conditions, as seen with NAFTA, foreign investment fails to support the domestic economy and thus fails to elevate standards for workers or the environment, or create jobs that provide decent and sustainable employment conditions; and

Whereas, in the case of Colombia, no FTA should be contemplated until and unless human rights conditions have significantly improved as demonstrated by a sustained period during which assassinations of labor, Afro-Colombian and indigenous advocates and forced displacements have halted, and the backlog of such cases has been prosecuted to address rampant impunity; and

Whereas in 2009, Colombia remains the most dangerous country in the world to be a unionist, with the number of murders in 2008 increasing 25 % over 2007, and whereas during the current Uribe administration over 482 unionists have been murdered, one-fourth of these union leaders, with 2,571 trade unionists killed since 1986, according to Colombia's National Labor School; and

Whereas, LULAC notes with concern the 'Para-Politics' scandal that is rocking Colombia and links top Uribe administration officials and allied Congresspeople to paramilitary group that kill unionists and human rights activists, which has resulted in the detention of 32 lawmakers so far; and

Whereas, the National Conference of State Legislatures, as well as numerous religious denominations and development groups oppose the Colombia Free Trade Agreement; and

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that LULAC opposes the Colombia and Panama FTAs leftover from the administration of George W. Bush; and

Let it be further resolved that LULAC calls on President Obama and the U.S. Congress to renegotiate the texts of FTAs with Colombia and Panama, including:

- The agriculture provisions to allow the Latin American countries to maintain policies that benefit campesino populations and keep them on their land;
- The investment chapters to remove the investor-state private dispute resolution system;
- The labor rights provisions to clarify that rights conferred by the International Labor Organization's (ILO) Conventions and the ILO jurisprudence pertaining to the interpretation of Conventions shall apply , expanding on the labor standards improvements of May 2007; and

Be it further resolved that LULAC calls on the President and Congress to work with Colombian government to improve labor and human rights conditions in Colombia prior to consideration of any trade pact, to set targets for measurable improvements over a sustained period including a halt to union assassinations and forced displacement of Afro-Colombians, and to provide funding and technical support to meet improvement targets; and

Be it further resolved, that a copy of this resolution be provided to the President of the United States, the Chairs and Ranking Members of the U.S. Senate Finance and the U.S. House Ways & Means Committee, the U.S. Trade Representative, the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of Labor, the Secretary of Agriculture and the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Resolution 8

Title: “Resolution Regarding CVS Caremark Corp”

Submitted by: LULAC District VIII

Whereas, CVS Caremark Corporation is the nation’s largest retail drugstore chain and leading source of prescription drugs and as such as such should demonstrate integrity and accountability in provide quality medicine , goods and services; and

Whereas, CVS has a questionable record on customer health and safety, including a pattern of selling expired products in many of its stores and selling CVS brand products sourced from overseas factories that have drawn the attention of regulators because of lapses in quality control; and

Whereas, CVS fails to provide equal access to its stores and services to low-income communities and communities of color. Nationwide, CVS locates many fewer stores per person in communities of color than in mostly white areas. CVS also locates more stores per person in the most affluent communities than those where lower-income people live; and

Whereas, CVS focuses anti-theft measures on communities of color . CSV’s anti-theft measures signal distrust of people of color. In many markets, CVS uses anti-theft tagging more heavily in stores in majority-people of color areas than in predominantly white areas; and

Whereas, CVS fails to protect private information. CVS recently settled federal complaints that it failed to protect medical and financial privacy of customers and employees. CVS tracks and sells some of its customer purchase data to companies that in turn sell the information to drug manufacturers for marketing purposes; and

Therefore be it resolved that the State Director of Texas LULAC appoint a statewide committee to investigate these concerns and meet with CVS. If concerns are not addressed and resolved with CVS, the committee will then meet with appropriate local, state and federal to take corrective action.

Resolution 9

Title: “April 6 to be Recognized as a Texas Holiday”

Submitted by: LULAC District VIII

Whereas, on April 6, 1813, about 1,000 Tejanos, alongside many Anglos and native Indians, fought in the Battle of Medina, the first major battle for Texas Independence; and,

Whereas, on this date, under the leadership of Bernando Gutierrez de Lara, the Tejano community of Texas declared Texas to be a free and independent republic; and,

Whereas, these efforts led, for a brief time, to the founding of the first republic of Texas; and,

Whereas that state of Texas does not currently recognize this historical fact;

Be it resolved that Texas LULAC call upon the Texas Legislature to adopt legislation to declare April 6 as an official state holiday.

Resolution 10

Title: “Oilfield Worker Stability”

Submitted by: LULAC District VI

Whereas, LULAC is concerned about the volatility of oil prices and its impact on oil workers, many of whom are Hispanic; and

Whereas, LULAC supports state and federal efforts to stabilize the price of oil and put the Hispanic oil field worker back to work;

Be it resolved, that LULAC supports training programs for oil workers and tax credits to oil producers to encourage an increase in the domestic production of oil and reduce our dependence on foreign oil.

Resolution 11

Title: "Future State Conventions"

Submitted by: LULAC Councils 602, 612, 649, 4317, 4626 and 4630

Whereas, LULAC is an organization to further the advancement of the Latino Community; and

Whereas, LULAC at its state meetings selects the community that will host each state convention;

Now, therefore be it resolved that all future LULAC state conventions be held in Latino communities in the respective cities where the convention is held.

Resolution 12

Title: “Resolution on Hutto Federal Detention”

Submitted by: LULAC Councils 602, 612 and 4317

Whereas the federal government maintains federal detention centers that are operated under contract by Corrections Corporations of America; and

Whereas federal policy permits the U.S. Immigration Customs Enforcement agency to detain immigrant women and their children in those facilities; and

Whereas the detention of immigrant women and children violates provisions of the Geneva Convention and all other forms of international law;

Now therefore be it resolved that LULAC appeals to the administration of President Barack Obama, to the United States Senate, to the United States Congress, and to the United Nations, that facilities like Hutto and government policies that provide for such facilities and for the detention of immigrant women and children be repealed.

Resolution 13

Title: "Resolution for HISD to Cancel Contract with For-Profit Alternative School"

Submitted by: LULAC Council 402

Whereas, the Houston Independent School District (HISD) is the only school district in the state of Texas which outsources its alternative school responsibilities to a for-profit corporation. Said corporation has been running two campuses in Houston which has failed the children and citizens of Houston, Texas. HISD recently renewed the contract with HISD for \$19.2 million (\$19,200,000.00) a year for five years. HISD pays for bus and food service which greatly adds to the costs of this contract; and

Whereas, HISD has expended an estimated \$200,000,000.00 taxpayer dollars on this alternative program for alleged disruptive students in the past 10 years; and

Whereas, the program has failed the students of HISD and is not cost effective; and

Whereas, in the past 10 years, a study indicated that approximately 7 percent (811) of all students referred to this program and age-appropriate graduate from an HISD school; and

Whereas, Over 60 percent of all students referred to this private for-profit organization are Hispanic students. As a result, many Hispanic students are dropping out of school because of the lack of effectiveness of this program for disruptive students; and

Whereas, oftentimes, Hispanic students are sent to this program because of low-academic performance and not because of being disruptive. This is a violation of the Texas Education Code, Chapter 37;

Therefore, be it resolved that LULAC, State of Texas, assembly calls for the termination of the contract between the Houston Independent School District and Community Education Partners.

Resolution 14

Title: "LULAC Opposes Any Changes to the Margaret and Gilbert Herrera Student Intake Center"

Submitted by: LULAC District III

Whereas, the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) is the nation's oldest and largest Latino organization, founded in Corpus Christi, Texas, on February 17, 1929; and

Whereas, LULAC, throughout its history, has committed itself to the principles that Latinos have equal access to the opportunities in employment, education, housing and healthcare; and

Whereas, LULAC recognizes that the Margaret and Gilbert Herrera Student Intake Center — in the Dallas Independent School District — has enrolled 12,000 students from 59 countries that speak over 26 different languages since the center opened its doors in 2003; and

Whereas, LULAC acknowledges the service and hard work that Margaret and Gilbert Herrera Student Intake Center provides to new families enrolling their children in a new country, giving a respectful atmosphere to immigrants, refugees and exchange students from kindergarten through 12th grade; and

Whereas, LULAC is concerned over recent personnel changes at the Dallas Independent School Districts that will affect the cultural sensitivity provided and experienced staff needed to deal with students from Latin American nations; and

Whereas, LULAC appreciates Judith Homs-Tomes and her staff, who have been with the center since its opening, have made sure that Latino students, who make up more than half of their enrollment are given quality guidance; and

Whereas, LULAC fully supports Ms. Homs-Tomes and her staff and hope that any restructuring of this center includes retaining these experienced individuals; and

Now therefore, be it resolved, that LULAC fully supports the Margaret and Gilbert Herrera Student Intake Center, named after LULAC leaders who gave so much to the community;

Be it resolved, that LULAC respectfully ask the Dallas Independent School District to bring the center back to its original state.

Resolution 15

Title: "Vote of Confidence Resolution"

Submitted by: LULAC District VIII and LULAC Council 402

Whereas, the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) is the largest and oldest Hispanic organization in the United States; and

Whereas, Harris County (Houston) elected their first Hispanic Sheriff Adrian Garcia, a Mexican-American born in Houston, Texas, and member of LULAC Council 402; and

Whereas, we members of LULAC District VIII support his initiative of making a strong statement;

- 1) of decreasing jail over crowdedness;
- 2) immediately reassigned 20 more deputies to the Harris County Investigation Unit to finalize 300 cases pending investigation against officers; and
- 3) whereas Sheriff Garcia has kept a professional, positive outlook on negative criticism from a few county officials who were used to the "good old boy" system and strives to implement new programs and secure funding to upgrade the Harris County Sheriff Department in compliance on a national level, since we are the largest sheriff's department in the state of Texas.

Now therefore, hereby let it be known that LULAC District VIII and the LULAC State Officers salute and congratulate Sheriff Adrian Garcia for his ground-breaking record of diversity of being the first-ever Hispanic to be elected to this county position of sheriff, winning with a majority of the vote.

Resolution 16

Title: “Ser-H-GAC Resolution”

Submitted by: LULAC District VIII and LULAC Council 18, 151, 402 and 4765

Whereas, the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) is the largest and oldest Hispanic organization in the United States; and

Whereas, Service, Employment, Redevelopment (SER) Jobs for Progress, Incorporated, was founded by LULAC Council 60 and the American GI Forum in Houston in 1964 as a placement center to serve the Mexican-American; and

Whereas, the Houston-Galveston Area Council, a 35-member Board of Directors, composed of local elected officials who serve on the governing bodies of member local governments and work together with public and private sector organizations and a host of volunteers; and

Whereas, the Houston-Galveston Area Council is a recipient of state and federal tax-dollars; and

Whereas, certain equal opportunity and nondiscrimination laws enforced by the US Department of Labor (DOL) are application to recipients of financial assistance. Collectively, these laws prohibit discrimination of require covered recipients to ensure that program beneficiaries and employees receive equal opportunity regardless of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, disability, and other bases; and

Whereas, on June 17, 2008 the H-GAC Board voted to terminate their contract with SER, effectively closing three workforce training facilities they operate, and leaving more than 70 SER employees without a job; and

Whereas, LULAC believes that the Houston-Galveston Area Council performance evaluators utilized procedures to terminate SER Funds; and

Whereas, according to a letter to Mr. Jack Stell, H-GAC Executive Director, from the Honorable Texas Senator, Mario Gallegos, Jr., District 6, the areas which SER served were communities with Houston: Denver Harbor, North Shore, and the North East area. These small communities certainly cannot be held to the same performance measures as facilities which serve whole cities, such as Columbus, Baytown, Huntsville and Galveston. Futhermore, had SER’s facilities only been compared to those serving similarly-sized, such as Hobby and the East End, it would be obvious that SER’s performance was on par or above the performance of those facilities. SER was not appropriately informed of their status as a ‘low-performer’ before H-GAC’s Workforce board voted to cut all of their funding. During the time immediately leading up to the Workforce Board’s May 29th vote, SER was not put on probation, given an opportunity to resolve performance issues, or explicitly told they were low-performing; and

Now therefore, be it resolved, that LULAC District VIII and Texas LULAC condemn H-GAC disparate treatment to terminate SER Funds to address HGAC own financial shortfall in its budget; and

Now therefore, be it hereby resolved, that LULAC request that the U.S. Secretary of Labor Hilda Solis, initiate a full compliance investigation in the manner HGAC arrived in their decision in terminating SER funds.

Be it further resolved, Secretary of Labor, Hilda Solis, investigate HGAC disparity of minority representation in it board of directors, committees and HGAC staff.

Resolution 17

Title: "287(g) Resolution"

Submitted by: LULAC District VIII

Whereas, the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) is the largest and oldest Hispanic organization in the United States; and

Whereas, the Pew Hispanic Center has found, in a 2007 nationwide survey of Latinos, that nearly two-thirds say the failure of Congress to enact an immigration reform bill has made life more difficult for all Latinos; and

Whereas, the same report cite that smaller numbers (ranging from about one in eight to one in four) say the heightened attention to immigration issues has had a specific negative effect on them personally. These effects include more difficulty finding work or housing; less likelihood of using government services or traveling abroad; and more likelihood of being asked to produce documents to prove their immigration status; and

Whereas, through the work of LULAC, NAACP, ACLU and other groups, the Texas Legislature passed a bill banning racial profiling in Texas; and

Whereas, the new law defines racial profiling as any "law enforcement-initiated action based on an individual's race, ethnicity, or national origin rather than on the individual's behavior or on information identifying the individual as having engaged in criminal activity." (Source: Racial Profiling in Texas); and

Whereas, the law can be found in the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, Chapter 2, Article 2.131-2.138 and Chapter 3, Article 3.05 and in the Occupations Code, 1701.253; and

Whereas, Houston Mayor Bill White, on March 16, 2009, requested to enter into a 287 (g) Jail Mutual Operating Agreement (MOA). "I will be urging other jail custodians in our region, outside of Harris County, to enter into 287 (g) agreements as well," stated Mayor White. This is a departure from the mayor's past position, that local police should have limited involvement in immigration enforcement; and

Whereas, under the 287 (g) program, state and local law enforcement agencies are allowed to perform like immigration agents, after being trained, and

Whereas, LULAC National President Rosa Rosales, stated in August 24, 2007, news release, "LULAC has always come out firmly against involving city police in immigration matters. This is the role of the federal government. The local police departments do not have the resources or training to enforce immigration law," said LULAC National President Rosa Rosales; and

Now therefore be it resolved, that LULAC District VIII and Texas LULAC denounce Mayor Bill White's 287(g) proposal and request for the mayor to withdraw his 287(g) proposal and stop it from being implemented.

Be it further resolved, that the LULAC District VIII Director schedule a news conference to inform the general public the consequences this policy would impose on Hispanics and other minority groups.

Resolution 18 (Failed)

Title: “287(g) Resolution and Elected Officials”

Submitted by: LULAC Councils 602, 612 and 4317

Whereas, Congress passed legislation that enacted Section 287(g) of the Immigration Nationality Act; and

Whereas, state and local communities may enter into Jail Mutual Operating Agreements with ICE; and

Whereas, communities that have entered into such agreements have done so for purposes that are racial in nature; and

Whereas, said communities that operate under such agreements have had a devastating impact on those Hispanics who reside in those communities; and

Now therefore be it resolved that LULAC will oppose any person running for office in national, state, or local elections who advocates or supports in any shape manner or form state and local communities into entering into 287(g) agreements with ICE.

(The resolution was taken off the floor by Texas LULAC State Director Joey Cardenas due to its wording that suggests that LULAC endorses and/or doesn't endorse in political partisan races. LULAC is a nonpartisan organization and working for or against a political candidate may be construed as an endorsement for the candidate or his or her opponent, resulting in a violation of our 501c4 status.)