

1 **CITY OF SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO**

2 **RESOLUTION NO. 2015-49**

3 **INTRODUCED BY:**

4
5 Mayor Javier M. Gonzales Councilor Patti J. Bushee
6 Councilor Joseph M. Maestas Councilor Peter N. Ives
7 Councilor Chris Rivera Councilor Signe Lindell
8
9 Councilor Carmichael Dominguez

10 **A RESOLUTION**

11 **DIRECTING STAFF TO WORK WITH COMMUNITY GROUPS TO DEVELOP A**
12 **PLAN OF ACTION TO ENSURE THAT STUDENTS AND PARENTS ARE ABLE TO**
13 **ACCESS THE DEFERRED ACTION FOR PARENTS OF AMERICANS AND LAWFUL**
14 **PERMANENT RESIDENTS (DAPA) PROGRAM AND AN EXPANDED DEFERRED**
15 **ACTION FOR CHILDHOOD ARRIVALS (DACA) PROGRAM; ASSESS THE**
16 **FINANCIAL CAPABILITY FROM THE CITY TO SUPPORT A PRIVATE/PUBLIC**
17 **INITIATIVE.**

18
19 **WHEREAS**, the City of Santa Fe recognizes the economic, social and cultural
20 contributions that immigrants bring to the city; and

21 **WHEREAS**, immigrants, most of whom live in mixed-status families with U.S. citizen
22 children, are an essential part of Santa Fe's workforce and business community; and

23 **WHEREAS**, the Governing Body, with broad support from law enforcement, faith,
24 business, labor and community organizations, has a long tradition of passing numerous
25 resolutions and ordinances seeking to integrate immigrant workers and families into the local

1 community, protect immigrants from discrimination, and support comprehensive immigration
2 reform at the federal level; and

3 **WHEREAS**, current federal immigration laws are outdated, and greatly restrict
4 opportunities for workers and their families to immigrate legally, secure work authorization, and
5 obtain relief from deportation; and

6 **WHEREAS**, the failure of Congress to enact comprehensive immigration reform and
7 ensuing deportations have led to the separation of New Mexican children from their parents,
8 financial strains on Santa Fe families, and disruption of local business; and

9 **WHEREAS**, in an attempt to alleviate some of the problems associated with the broken
10 federal immigration system, President Obama announced a series of executive actions to provide
11 temporary relief from deportation and temporary work permits to certain undocumented
12 immigrants who are parents of U.S. citizens or lawful permanent residents; and

13 **WHEREAS**, the President also announced an executive action to expand the pool of
14 eligible young students and workers for deportation relief and work authorization; and

15 **WHEREAS**, these executive actions will be carried out through two programs – the
16 Deferred Action for Parents of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents (DAPA) program and
17 an expanded Deferred Action for Childhood (DACA) program; and

18 **WHEREAS**, numerous recent economic reports show that DAPA and DACA will
19 increase the US gross domestic product, have a positive net impact on the incomes of all US-
20 based workers, and will result in more jobs for US-born workers; and

21 **WHEREAS**, DACA will enable more students to attend higher education institutions and
22 vocational programs, and pursue careers in fields desperate for bicultural, bilingual workers;

23 **WHEREAS**, an estimated 5,000 Santa Fe County residents are expected to qualify for
24 DAPA and an expanded DACA; and

25 **WHEREAS**, the majority of immigrants in Santa Fe who would qualify for DAPA and

1 DACA are of working age (18-44), have lived in the city for more than 10 years, have paid
2 income and gross receipt taxes in the city and the state, and are integral to the fabric of the local
3 community; and

4 **WHEREAS**, an expanded pool of workers with work authorization and relief from
5 deportation would have a significant impact on Santa Fe's local economy – potentially increasing
6 wages and buying power, expanding the city and county tax bases, spurring first-time home
7 purchases, creating more locally-based businesses, increasing demand for financial services, and
8 reducing poverty for workers and their Santa Fe born children; and

9 **WHEREAS**, the Governing Body voted to sign on to an amicus brief, along with dozens
10 of other cities across the country, supporting the executive action on DAPA and DACA based on
11 the potential economic and social benefits to the city, as well as the belief that the President has
12 the legal authority under the US Constitution, and laws passed by Congress, to determine how to
13 prioritize immigration enforcement in the United States; and

14 **WHEREAS**, New Mexico's Attorney General also signed on to an amicus brief
15 supporting the implementation of DAPA based on the potential positive impact on New Mexico's
16 economy and the legal soundness of the President's executive action; and

17 **WHEREAS**, filing an application for DAPA or DACA could be cost prohibitive for
18 many low wage workers, and families in desperation may turn to unqualified representatives for
19 legal help and risk filing incomplete or inaccurate applications; and

20 **WHEREAS**, a private/public initiative has been convened by the Mayor's office, the
21 Santa Fe Public School District, Catholic Charities of Santa Fe, Somos Un Pueblo Unido, The
22 Santa Fe Public Schools Adelante Program, Guadalupe Credit Union and several other local
23 organizations representing business and faith communities to ensure that accurate information
24 about DAPA and DACA reaches all the eligible persons in our community and that legal services
25 and fees required to apply for DAPA are accessible to all; and

1 **NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE**
2 **CITY OF SANTA FE** that the Governing Body supports the implementation of DAPA and
3 DACA nationally and locally.

4 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Governing Body supports local efforts by
5 service providers, community groups, and schools to provide accurate information about DAPA
6 and DACA eligibility; to protect residents from immigration, tax, consumer, financial and other
7 fraud; to identify and implement efficient processes for obtaining require documents for
8 applications from public schools, public hospitals, clinics, city agencies, and other organizations;
9 to provide low-cost or no-cost legal help for low-income Santa Fe parents and workers filing
10 DAPA and DACA applications; to educate the broader public about the positive economic and
11 social impact of DAPA and DACA in Santa Fe; and to build long-term capacity of city agencies,
12 community organizations, and other stakeholders to expand services, maximize economic
13 contributions, and strengthen civic participation of immigrants.

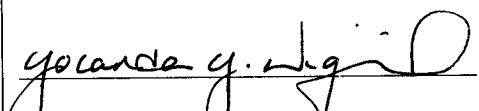
14 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Governing Body directs staff to assess the
15 financial capability from the City that would be necessary to assist in supporting this
16 private/public initiative, and work with community groups to develop a plan of action to ensure
17 that our students and parents are able to access DAPA and an expanded DACA.

18 PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 27th day of May, 2015.

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20 JAVIER M. GONZALES, MAYOR

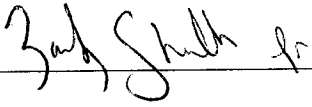
21 ATTEST:

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24 YOLANDA Y. VIGIL, CITY CLERK
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1 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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4 KELLEY A. BRENNAN, CITY ATTORNEY

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25 *Legislation/Resolutions 2015/2015-49 Immigration Initiative*