

WHEREAS, Illinois is reported to have 10,000 immigrants from China, 13,000 from Poland and 18,000 from India based on statistics from the Migration Policy Institute (2014); and

WHEREAS, DACA has increased the education and employment opportunities for this population, increasing and strengthening their ties to Chicago; and

WHEREAS, the change in administration has threatened the continuation of this program and therefore the protections afforded to this population; and

WHEREAS, 96,000 immigrants who qualify for DACA in Illinois, will have no protection if the program is removed, creating an alarming sense of uncertainty and fear; and

WHEREAS, the City of Chicago has a commitment to protect its citizens, particularly our children and teenagers who may not have entered the country illegally by their own accord and should not be penalized for the wrongdoings of others; and

WHEREAS, many of these childhood arrivals know no other life than the one they created in Chicago, in Chicago schools and in Chicago neighborhoods, and returning them to a country they do not know, is a brutal punishment; now, therefore,

Committee on Education and Childhood Development

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO:

That the Department of Family and Support Services appear before the Committee on Education and Child Development to discuss the support and legal resources available to undocumented immigrants and their families to help them cope with this state of uncertainty; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,

That the Health and Human Services unit of the Department of Innovation and Technology develop a webpage under the City's official site where forms, education tools, and a directory of services is provided to help undocumented immigrants gain information and resources needed to complete their DACA and/or citizenship applications.

Edward M. Burke Alderman, 14th Ward