December 6, 2016

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 W. Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors,

We write in support of the motion proposed by Supervisor Hilda L. Solis that calls on the County to prepare for significant changes in federal policy and develop the protections necessary to ensure immigrant families and communities feel safe regardless of their immigration status under the new Federal Administration.

The Chamber has long been a proponent of immigrant integration efforts that promote the quality of life that ensures the Los Angeles region will remain an attractive place to live, work and do business. Forty percent of our population (and of our workforce) in Los Angeles County is comprised of immigrants. Los Angeles is highly dependent on immigrant labor, both skilled and unskilled to help our local economy to thrive. Putting up barriers to contribution and participation based on immigration status hurts us all. As such, it is important that the County and its leaders take concrete steps to defuse potentially devastating consequences for Los Angeles County, not only for immigrant communities, but also for our economy, safety net, and social cohesion.

Los Angeles County is uniquely positioned to facilitate and help lead this regional effort. The motion authored by Supervisor Solis leverages the County’s existing departments to act as resources for immigrant communities, cities, and service providers. I urge you to support this legislation to ensure that the County does everything within its power to protect and serve every one of its residents.

We look forward to partnering with you to continue to uplift our communities with care, grace, inclusiveness and dignity.

Sincerely,

Gary Toebben
President/CEO
Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce