

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM  
AND THE McCAIN-KENNEDY BILL**

WHEREAS, the United States was founded by immigrants, who have traveled from around the world to seek a better life; and

WHEREAS, immigrants have made enormous contributions to our nation's and our county's economic, cultural, and political life; and

WHEREAS, our nation's immigration system should uphold our basic values of family, economic opportunity, and fairness; and

WHEREAS, the US immigration system, which has resulted in long backlogs, deaths on the border, and an undocumented population of eleven million immigrants, including perhaps 30,000 in the Cincinnati area, is broken and is in dire need of comprehensive reform; and

WHEREAS, our county's and state's undocumented immigrants fill key roles in our economy, pay taxes (including contributions to Social Security that they cannot receive back), raise families, and contribute to our schools, churches, neighborhoods, and communities; and

WHEREAS, any comprehensive reform must involve a path to citizenship for these hardworking immigrants, as well as reunification of families and a safe and orderly process for enabling willing immigrant workers to fill essential jobs in our economy; and

WHEREAS, by restoring order to our immigration system, such reform will make our nation more secure as well as meet our labor needs and uphold our basic values as a nation; and

WHEREAS, the need for comprehensive immigration reform is recognized by President Bush, both major political parties, business, organized labor, faith communities, and other leaders and sectors in our country; and

WHEREAS, US Senators John McCain of Arizona and Edward Kennedy of Massachusetts, have proposed legislation that would offer such comprehensive reform of US immigration laws

BE IT RESOLVED that we, the City Council of Cincinnati, Ohio, gathered here this 15th Day of March, 2006, A.D., do hereby wholeheartedly support comprehensive immigration reform and the McCain-Kennedy-Gutierrez legislation, and urge the United States Congress to enact this legislation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the United States Congress.