

**JOURNAL OF THE PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OF COOK COUNTY**

JULY 12, 2005



JOHN H. STROGER, JR., PRESIDENT

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ROBERTO MALDONADO**

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PETER N. SILVESTRI
DEBORAH SIMS
BOBBIE L. STEELE
LARRY SUFFREDIN**

**DAVID ORR
COUNTY CLERK**

* * * Material omitted * * *

**05-R-314
RESOLUTION**

Sponsored by

THE HONORABLE ROBERTO MALDONADO, COUNTY COMMISSIONER

Co-Sponsored by

THE HONORABLE JOSEPH MARIO MORENO AND DEBORAH SIMS

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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

WHEREAS, the United States has an undocumented population of eleven million immigrants, including half a million in Illinois, more than 300,000 of which reside in Cook County; and

WHEREAS, Cook County's undocumented immigrants fill key roles in our economy such as paying taxes (including contributions to Social Security that they cannot receive back), raising families, and contributing to our schools, churches, neighborhoods and communities; and

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WHEREAS, our current immigration system contributes to long backlogs, labor abuses, countless deaths on the border and vigilante violence and is in dire need of reform to meet the challenges of the 21st Century; 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 ensure full labor rights; and

WHEREAS, U.S. Representative Luis Gutierrez has joined with U.S. Senators Edward Kennedy of Massachusetts and John McCain of Arizona to offer a comprehensive U.S. immigration reform law known as “The Secure America and Orderly Immigration Act”; and

WHEREAS, the immigration initiative severely punishes illegal employment practices while creating a path to earned permanent legal status for individuals who have been working in the United States, paying taxes, obeying the law and learning English and protecting workers by ensuring the right to change jobs, join a union and report abusive employment situations; and

WHEREAS, modernizing our antiquated and dysfunctional immigration system will uphold our nation’s basic values of fairness, equal opportunity and respect for the law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the President and the Members of the Cook County Board of Commissioners do hereby support comprehensive immigration reform and memorialize the Illinois Congressional delegation to urge the passage of “The Secure America and Orderly Immigration Act of 2005 (SB 1033 and HB 2330)” that allows every hardworking, law-abiding individual to achieve the American Dream; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this Resolution be delivered to the President of the United States, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the ~~President of the Senate~~ President of the Senate, the Majority and Minority Leaders of the Senate, the Speaker of the House, the Majority and Minority Leaders of the House and the Illinois Congressional Delegation.

Approved and adopted this 12th day of July 2005.

JOHN H. STROGER, JR., President
Cook County Board of Commissioners

Attest: DAVID ORR, County Clerk

* * * Material omitted * * *