

House Concurrent Resolution No. 5026

By Representatives Ruiz, Goico, Gonzalez and Mesa

3-28

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION outlining the principles of the State of
2 Kansas regarding immigration reform policy.

3 WHEREAS, Failure to update our federal immigration system
4 separates and destabilizes Kansas communities, and creates uncertainty,
5 inefficiency and an uneven playing field for Kansas' citizens, businesses
6 and economy; and

7 WHEREAS, Failure to address the system where it can be fixed – at
8 the federal level – has left all states searching for solutions in ways that
9 have been costly and divisive: Now, therefore,

10 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas,
11 the Senate concurring therein: That the Legislature recommends the
12 following basic principles as a guide for state and federal policy on
13 immigration:

14 1. Immigration is a federal policy issue between the United States
15 government and other countries – not Kansas and other countries. The
16 Legislature urges the Kansas congressional delegation to take action to
17 create a workable immigration system that upholds our values, our
18 economic needs and moves us forward; and

19 2. the Legislature respects the rule of law and supports law
20 enforcement's professional judgment and discretion. Local law
21 enforcement resources should focus on criminal activities, not civil
22 violations of federal code; and

23 3. strong families are the foundation of successful communities. The
24 Legislature opposes policies that unnecessarily separate families. The
25 Legislature champions policies that support families and improve the
26 health, education and well-being of all Kansas children; and

27 4. the Legislature acknowledges the important economic role
28 immigrant Kansans play as workers, entrepreneurs and taxpayers. The
29 immigration policies of Kansas must affirm its reputation as a welcoming
30 and business-friendly state; and

31 5. immigration is an important part of our past and our future. As in
32 the past, immigrants are totally integrated into communities across
33 Kansas. We must adopt a humane approach to this reality, reflecting our
34 values, history and spirit of inclusion and cooperation. The way we treat
35 immigrants says a lot about our society being fair and just. Kansas should
36 always be a place that welcomes people of goodwill. Our communities

1 and our future will be best served by doing so; and

2 *Be it further resolved:* That the Legislature urgently calls upon the
3 Kansas congressional delegation and the United States Congress to enact
4 thorough, common sense, workable and humane reforms that reflect the
5 realities of our country's workforce needs and represent America's values
6 at its best; and

7 *Be it further resolved:* That the Chief Clerk of the House of
8 Representatives shall send enrolled copies of this resolution to
9 Representatives Ruiz, Goico, Gonzalez and Mesa, and to the President of
10 the United States, the Speaker of the United States House of
11 Representatives, the President of the United States Senate and each
12 member of the Kansas congressional delegation.

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