

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM
CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON

AGENDA TITLE:	Discussion of Resolution No. 419 – Calling on Congress to Swiftly and Comprehensively Address Federal Immigration Reform Generally and Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals in Particular to Protect the Legal Status of Dreamers – Sponsored by Mayor Roberts
DEPARTMENT:	City Manager’s Office
PRESENTED BY:	Scott MacColl, Intergovernmental Relations Manager
ACTION:	<input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution <input type="checkbox"/> Motion <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discussion <input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing

PROBLEM/ISSUE STATEMENT:

The Federal Government announced that it will end the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program in six months. The DACA program offers legal status to an estimated 800,000 residents who immigrated illegally to the US as children (also known as “Dreamers”). DACA protection reduces the fear relating to their immigration status. Therefore, Congressional action is critical given the six-month window prior to termination.

Proposed Resolution No. 419 calls on Congress to swiftly and comprehensively address federal immigration reform generally and Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals in particular to protect the legal status of Dreamers.

RESOURCE/FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Proposed Resolution No. 419 has no financial impact.

RECOMMENDATION

No action is required; this item is for discussion purposes only. Staff is seeking Council direction on whether Council would like staff to bring back proposed Resolution No. 419 for adoption.

Approved By: City Manager **DT** City Attorney **JT-A**

BACKGROUND

The current presidential administration has publically stated that they want to pass immigration reform, in part by addressing illegal immigrants and their children. During the Obama administration, Congress passed the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, which provides protection to the children of illegal immigrants, who were born in the United States (also known as “Dreamers”).

Earlier this month, United States Attorney General Jeff Sessions stated that the administration will end the DACA program within six months, which would remove protections from those Dreamers and jeopardize their immigration status. Absent action by Congress, the program could end by the end of 2017.

DISCUSSION

Proposed Resolution No. 419 expresses strong support for the DACA program and calls upon Congress to swiftly and comprehensively address federal immigration reform and the DACA program to protect the legal status of the thousands of Dreamers in the United States.

If adopted by Council, staff will send signed copies of proposed Resolution No. 419 to the City’s federal Congressional delegation and to the Trump Administration. Copies will also be sent to other cities in support of this effort.

Tonight, no action is required on proposed Resolution No. 419. Staff is seeking Council direction on whether Council would like staff to bring back the proposed resolution for adoption. Staff recommends that this item be scheduled for adoption on October 16, 2017.

RESOURCE/FINANCIAL IMPACT

Proposed Resolution No. 419 has no financial impact.

RECOMMENDATION

No action is required; this item is for discussion purposes only. Staff is seeking Council direction on whether Council would like staff to bring back proposed Resolution No. 419 for adoption.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A – Proposed Resolution No. 419

RESOLUTION NO. 419

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON, CALLING ON CONGRESS TO SWIFTLY AND COMPREHENSIVELY ADDRESS FEDERAL IMMIGRATION REFORM GENERALLY AND DEFERRED ACTION FOR CHILDHOOD ARRIVALS IN PARTICULAR TO PROTECT THE LEGAL STATUS OF DREAMERS.

WHEREAS, an estimated 800,000 United States residents, who came to the United States as children, have benefited from the protections afforded by the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, allowing them to lead productive lives with reduced fear relating to their immigration status, and

WHEREAS, the announcement earlier this month by United States Attorney General Jeff Sessions that the administration will end the DACA program in six months has brought new and increased urgency to this legislative priority, and

WHEREAS, congressional action on DACA is imperative given the six month window before the program is terminated.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON, HEREBY RESOLVES:

1. The City Council expresses strong support for continuing the protections afforded under the DACA program;
2. Calls on Congress to swiftly and comprehensively address federal immigration reform generally and DACA in particular to protect the legal status of thousands of Dreamers;
3. Requests that this Resolution be shared with the State's delegation and other cities to support the effort.

This Resolution shall take effect and be in full force immediately upon passage by the City Council.

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL ON OCTOBER 16, 2017.

Mayor Christopher Roberts

ATTEST:

Jessica Simulcik Smith
City Clerk