



Coalition of Bar Associations of Color

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING  
PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA'S EXECUTIVE ACTIONS ON IMMIGRATION**

Endorsed March 2016

**WHEREAS**, the Coalition of Bar Associations of Color (CBAC), organized in 1992, is a coalition created to act as a collective voice for issues of common concern to its member organizations; and

**WHEREAS**, the member organizations of the CBAC are the Hispanic National Bar Association (HNBA), the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA), the National Bar Association (NBA), and the National Native American Bar Association (NNABA); and

**WHEREAS**, the member organizations of CBAC are the national voices of their respective legal communities in the United States and its territories and possessions; and

**WHEREAS**, it is not beneficial to the American economy for over 11 million people, many of whom are undocumented workers, to live in the shadows as undocumented immigrants; and

**WHEREAS**, President Barack Obama pushed Congress to repair the United States' broken immigration system and received bipartisan support from the public and the U.S. Senate to address the core problems in the system; and

**WHEREAS**, President Obama gave the House over a year to craft their own version of legislation to fix the immigration system or to vote the 2013 Senate immigration reform bill up or down and they made no progress down either path; and

**WHEREAS**, Congress has failed to pass a bipartisan, comprehensive immigration bill to fix our immigration system; and

**WHEREAS**, on November 20, 2014, President Obama announced a series of executive actions, known as the Immigration Accountability Executive Actions, to crack down on illegal immigration at the border, prioritize deporting felons and not families, and require certain undocumented immigrants to pass a criminal background check and pay taxes in order to temporarily stay in the United States without fear of deportation; and

**WHEREAS**, these executive actions included expansion of the population eligible for the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program to people of any current age who entered the United States before the age of 16 and lived in the United States continuously since January 1, 2010 and extension the period of DACA and work authorization from two years to

three; and

**WHEREAS**, the executive actions also would allow the parents of United States citizens and lawful permanent residents to request deferred action and employment authorization for three years, in a new Deferred Action for Parents of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents program, provided they have lived in the United States continuously since January 1, 2010; and

**WHEREAS**, the executive actions additionally would expand the use of provisional waivers of unlawful presence to include the spouses and children of lawful permanent residents and the children of U.S. citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, President Obama's executive actions would modernize, improve and clarify immigrant and nonimmigrant visa programs to grow our economy and create jobs; and

**WHEREAS**, the President's executive actions promote citizenship education and public awareness for lawful permanent residents and provide an option for naturalization applicants to use credit cards to pay the application fees; and

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services has not begun to implement these initiatives in large part because on February 16, 2015, a federal judge in the Southern District of Texas issued a preliminary injunction blocking the orders which would have spared as many as 5 million people who are in the United States illegally from deportation; and

**WHEREAS**, the US Supreme Court subsequently agreed to hear the government's challenge to the decision of a divided three-judge panel of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, in New Orleans, which affirmed the injunction.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the CBAC supports President Barack Obama's November 20, 2014 executive actions to reform the broken immigration system of the United States; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** members of the CBAC are urged to contact their duly elected members of Congress to express their support of the President's executive action to reform the country's broken immigration system; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that this resolution shall be the policy of CBAC until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

*[Remainder of page intentionally blank.]*

## CERTIFICATION

**WE**, the duly-elected Presidents of the Hispanic National Bar Association (HNBA), the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA), the National Bar Association (NBA), and the National Native American Bar Association (NNABA), hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly enacted by a duly noticed meeting of the Board of Directors.



*Robert T. Maldonado*

Roberto Maldonado  
President, Hispanic National Bar Association

March 1, 2016  
Date

*Jim Y. Hwang*

Jim Hwang  
President, National Asian Pacific American Bar Association

March 1, 2016  
Date

*BCP*

Benjamin Crump  
President, National Bar Association

March 1, 2016  
Date

*Linda Benally*

Linda Benally  
President, National Native American Bar Association

March 1, 2016  
Date