

**ORDER OF THE NEW HAVEN BOARD OF ALDERS CALLING FOR A WORKSHOP REGARDING EQUITABLE CIVIC, SOCIAL, AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMMIGRANT RESIDENTS OF THE CITY OF NEW HAVEN.**

**WHEREAS:** It would be constructive to hold a workshop before the appropriate aldermanic committee to discuss access to city programs and services, barriers to civic participation, and the need for protections against exploitation experienced by immigrant residents of the City of New Haven; and

**WHEREAS:** The New Haven Police Department issued General Order 06-02 providing, inter alia, that City police officers may not inquire about immigration status in 2006; and

**WHEREAS:** The Board of Alders voted to issue the nation's first municipal identification cards to all residents in 2007; and

**WHEREAS:** The Mayor of the City of New Haven issued "An Executive Order Concerning Undocumented Immigrants" in 2019, stating no city employee can ask about a person's immigration status unless required by law, inter alia, and updated the aforementioned executive order to further strengthen protections in 2020; and

**WHEREAS:** The City of New Haven defines itself as a "Sanctuary City" and held fast to this status even through threats of loss of federal funding from the Trump administration; and

**WHEREAS:** The City of New Haven has been home to an Ecuadorian Consulate since 2008 and established a temporary Mexican mobile consulate in 2022; and

**WHEREAS:** The 2020 census revealed that Hispanics are the City of New Haven's largest ethnic group, representing 30.6 percent of our population; and

**WHEREAS:** The Connecticut General Assembly expanded HUSKY Health Insurance eligibility for undocumented children 12 years and under and is taking up additional legislation to expand eligibility to age 26; and

**WHEREAS:** State Representative Juan Candelaria introduced legislation to enable undocumented residents to vote in municipal and state elections; and

**WHEREAS:** The Elm City ID Card remains available but is no longer linked to other city services or recognized by local establishments; and

**WHEREAS:** Significant numbers of New Haven residents are Spanish-dominant; and

**WHEREAS:** There is limited access to Spanish interpretation in public-facing City departments, no routine Spanish translation of public documents or Spanish interpretation at public meetings, and no Spanish language traffic and parking signage; and

**WHEREAS:** The decennial City of New Haven Charter Review provides an opportunity to address barriers to civic participation for non-electors that are currently enshrined therein; and

**WHEREAS:** Immigrant residents routinely face serious health-harming violations of labor and employment laws, as well as an increased risk of being victims of crimes like robbery; and

**WHEREAS:** It would be valuable to understand how addressing these challenges would advance the Board of Alders' legislative agenda, particularly in the areas of jobs, public health, and public safety.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED** that the New Haven Board of Alders conduct a workshop regarding equitable civic, social, and economic opportunities for immigrant residents in the City of New Haven, and that any records regarding policy, planning, and implementation related to this topic be furnished to the appropriate committee prior to the workshop.