## Before the Board of Supervisors in and for the County of Monterey, State of California

| Our nation's immigrants have made invaluable        | ) |
|---|---|
| contributions to the progress of the United States, | ) |
| and immigrants continue to enrich the social,       | ) |
| economic, cultural and civic life of our country.   | ) |
| Our immigration policies must recognize these       | ) |
| contributions, as well as the important role that   | ) |
| immigrant workers and their families play in the    | ) |
| future growth of our nation. In order to best       | ) |
| ensure our nation's security, our immigration       | ) |
| enforcement measures must be effective, fair and    | ) |
| humane. Thus, we believe that comprehensive         | ) |
| immigration reform must be accomplished in          | ) |
| accordance with the following principles            | ) |

WHEREAS, Immigration is a federal responsibility and a comprehensive approach to solve our broken immigration system would strengthen our County of Monterey and nation's economy and liberates aspiring citizens to make an even greater contribution to our communities; and

WHEREAS, Becoming a citizen in the United States means taking a solemn oath to uphold our nation's Constitution, and

**WHEREAS**, We believe in the human dignity of all County of Monterey residents, regardless of immigration status, and recognize the importance of immigrants' many contributions to the social and economic fabric of the County of Monterey; and

**WHEREAS**, Keeping families together not only is the right thing to do, but is also good for the economy because families provide a base of support that increases worker productivity and spurs entrepreneurship; and

**WHEREAS,** Comprehensive immigration reform must include a realistic pathway to citizenship for all hardworking, taxpaying, aspiring citizens who live in the U.S. if they meet reasonable requirements; and

**WHEREAS,** Comprehensive immigration reform must provide a mechanism for aspiring citizens who have grown up in this country to become U.S. citizens and be able to fully contribute to our joint future; and

**WHEREAS**, Comprehensive immigration reform must provide a meaningful opportunity for immigrant students to pursue a college education; and

WHEREAS, Comprehensive immigration reform must update the legal immigration system so that the future flow of immigrant workers more realistically matches our nation's labor needs and is structured to protect the wages and working conditions of U.S. and immigrant workers; and

**WHEREAS**, Any new worker visa program must provide for strict compliance with U.S. labor standards and wage and hour standards; portability of visas so that workers can change jobs; and the ability for workers to petition for permanent residency; and

**WHEREAS**, Comprehensive immigration reform must reduce the unreasonable wait times and arbitrary rules that keep families separated from their loved ones; and

**WHEREAS**, Internal and border law enforcement should focus on preventing criminals, drug cartels and other bad actors from entering the U.S. or engaging in criminal activities; and

## BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY OF MONTEREY:

That this Board of Supervisors urges the 113<sup>th</sup> Congress to enact comprehensive immigration reform as outlined in this resolution that addresses full legalization with a path to citizenship and future immigration of families and workers.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that a copy of this resolution shall be delivered to the U.S. Speaker of the House, President of the Senate, members of the State of California General Assembly, Governor of California, and California Speaker of the House.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on this 19th day of March, 2013 by the following vote, to-wit:

| AYES:<br>NOES:<br>ABSENT:            |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| that the foregoing is a true copy of | ard of Supervisors of the County of Monterey, State of California, hereby certify an original order of said Board of Supervisors duly made and entered in thefor the meeting on |
| Dated:                               | Gail Borkowski, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors<br>County of Monterey, State of California  |
|                                      | By<br>Deputy  |