In 2013, Mayor Eric Garcetti re-established the Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs (MOIA) in order to promote and advance the economic, cultural, social, and political well-being of immigrant communities in the City of Los Angeles. Our mission is to develop programs and initiatives to support immigrant integration through the coordination of city services, outreach and legislative advocacy. We encourage you to share this newsletter with your friends, family and colleagues. Thank you for your support!

**IMMIGRATION POLICY NEWS**

**National**

**Justice Department Files Lawsuit Against California**

On Wednesday, March 7, 2018, Attorney General Jeff Sessions announced that the Justice Department had filed a lawsuit against the State of California for three laws it passed in 2017 that limit government officials’ and employers’ ability to help federal immigration agents, and that give California the power to review conditions in facilities where immigrants are being detained by federal officials.

To read the case file please click [here](#).

**President Trump Signs Omnibus Bill to Fund Federal Government, Wall**

On Friday, March 23, 2018, President Donald Trump signed an omnibus spending bill that included $1.6 billion in funds dedicated to his proposed border wall despite threatening to veto the bill due to its lack of DACA legislation and full funding of the border wall. The bill will fund the government through September 30, 2018, averting what would have been the third government shutdown this year.
Commerce Department Announces Census Citizenship Question
On Monday, March 26, 2018, the U.S. Department of Commerce announced that a citizenship question would be included in the 2020 Census. The inclusion came at the request of the Justice Department which claimed to require the question as a means to enforce the Voting Rights Act. To read the memorandum directing the Census Bureau to reinstate the question you can visit the U.S. Department of Commerce website here.

Immigration and Customs Enforcement to No Longer Seek Automatic Release of Pregnant Detainees
On Thursday, March 29, 2018, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) announced a policy change that the agency would no longer default to releasing pregnant immigrant detainees. The executive directive, originally finalized in December, along with a frequently asked questions page can be viewed on the ICE website here.

State Department to Require Visa Applicants to Provide Social Media History
On Thursday, March 29, 2018, the U.S. Department of State filed a public notice with the Federal Register to allow for a 60-day notice of proposed information collection for immigrant visa and alien registration. The proposal would require all applicants for visas and legal permanent residency in the U.S. to submit five years of social media, email, and telephone history with their applications.

To read the full notice and to submit a formal comment you can visit the Federal Register website here.

Regional

Los Angeles Leads Cities, Counties in DACA Brief
On Wednesday, March 21, 2018, Los Angeles City Attorney Mike Feuer announced that the City of Los Angeles is leading a national coalition of 40 U.S. cities and counties along with the National League of Cities and the U.S. Conference of Mayors in filing an amicus brief seeking to prevent the termination of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program.

California Files Lawsuit Against Commerce Department
On Tuesday, March 27, 2018, California Attorney General Xavier Becerra filed a lawsuit against the U.S. Department of Commerce to combat the inclusion of a citizenship question on the 2020 Census. Becerra, along with Secretary of State Alex Padilla, also wrote an op-ed in the San Francisco Chronicle detailing the impact the question could have in California.

To read the full release from the California Attorney General click here.
THE MONTH IN REVIEW

Mayor Eric Garcetti Hosts Lunch With Dreamers

On Wednesday, March 14, 2018, Mayor Eric Garcetti hosted a lunch with eight Dreamers at the Los Angeles Central Library’s Rare Books Room. The group discussed the failures of the federal government in finding a permanent solution to the Delayed Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program since the March 5 arbitrary deadline, challenges of being undocumented in Los Angeles, and how the city can work to protect its immigrant residents.

We Are One LAUSD

MOIA presented a Know Your Rights workshop at Florence Avenue Elementary School on March 21 to help carry out the second phase of Los Angeles Unified School District’s (LAUSD) We Are One L.A. Unified campaign. MOIA will be presenting multiple Know Your Rights Workshops in LAUSD schools across the city.

The “We Are One” campaign was launched in 2017 and amplifies the District’s efforts to cultivate welcoming learning environments for all students, including those who are immigrants. The campaign provides families and employees with critical information related to the academic, legal, health and wellness, and enrollment needs of immigrants.

For more information about the campaign and resources available for immigrant families, please visit the LAUSD website [here](#).
IN THE NEWS

L.A. city officials, organizers push back against termination of protected status for thousands of immigrants
Los Angeles Times

“Organizers and elected officials, including City Council members Curren Price and Gil Cedillo, gathered outside City Hall to decry Trump's termination of temporary protected status, or TPS, and to offer strategies to protect those immigrants.”

Trump finally comes to California — to see donors and border wall prototypes, keeping protesters at a distance
Los Angeles Times

“The president’s overnight trip to California, coming later in his term than for any White House occupant since Franklin D. Roosevelt, was brief in duration but long on symbolism as Trump personally confronted the blue state he has clashed with most.”

L.A. takes lead on legal brief seeking to prevent DACA termination
LA Daily News

“Los Angeles is leading a national coalition of 40 U.S. cities and counties, along with the National League of Cities and the U.S. Conference of Mayors, in filing a legal brief seeking to prevent the termination of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, City Attorney Mike Feuer announced Wednesday.”

VOLUNTEER

Mayor’s Immigrant Affairs Volunteer Corps

The Mayor’s Office of Immigrant Affairs is proud to launch the Mayor’s Immigrant Affairs Volunteer Corps (MIAVC)! This corps is created to empower Angelenos to support the programs and initiatives of our direct service community partners. Interested individuals should complete the volunteer application to be placed on a volunteer list.

The MIAVC application can be accessed here. Please direct any questions or concerns about MIAVC to mayor.immigrantaffairs@lacity.org.

Questions? Comments? Please email us at Mayor.Immigrantaffairs@lacity.org