

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF ANTI-DEPORTATION AWARENESS EVENTS

WHEREAS, Southeast Asian immigrants represent the largest refugee community ever to be resettled in the United States. ¹

WHEREAS, The 1970's marked the diaspora of Southeast Asian refugees who fled their homelands from the Vietnamese War, Khmer Rouge Genocide, and Secret War. They were forcefully displaced and forced to resettle in places with high poverty and few social or economic supports.

WHEREAS, They also experience low retention rates in higher education and are now at least three times more likely to be deported on the basis of a past criminal conviction due to proposed policies by the Trump Administration. ²

WHEREAS, Deportations have increased under the Trump administration in an attempt to crackdown on illegal immigration. ³

WHEREAS, On October 10th, 2018 the Department of Homeland Security proposed changes to the Public Charge⁴ rule that aimed to drastically restrict our community members from accessing green cards and obtaining citizenship on the basis of their family income and health conditions.

WHEREAS, The Administration has also pressured the Vietnamese government to take back about a dozen of pre-1995 Vietnamese refugees who have been living in the U.S. for decades, which disregards the previous Repatriation Agreement in 2008.

WHEREAS, There are more than 2.7 million SEAs living in the United States, but at least 16,000 members of this community have received final orders of deportation ⁵

WHEREAS, The Southeast Asian Solidarity Week: Students Against Deportation, along with the Vietnamese Student Union, Asian Pacific Coalition, United Khmer Student, and Association of Hmong Student, IDEAS at UCLA, the Vietnamese Student Association at University of Nebraska-Lincoln, the Vietnamese Students' Association at University of Pennsylvania, the Southeast Asians Furthering Education at UC Davis, the Cambodian Student Association at Portland State University, the Hmong American Cultural Outreach, the Diversity Leadership Council at Gustavus Adolphus College in Minnesota, VietUnity Santa Cruz, and the Vietnamese Student Association at the University of the Pacific will happen during APIDA Heritage Month in order to increase awareness on this issue.

¹ <https://www.searac.org/what-we-do/national-state-policy-advocacy/immigration/>

² <https://www.searac.org/what-we-do/national-state-policy-advocacy/immigration/>

³ "US Attorney General: zero tolerance policy for illegal migrants" <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1P-EQIFOGIo>

⁴ <https://www.ilrc.org/public-charge>

⁵ <http://www.searac.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/The-Devastating-Impact-of-Deportation-on-Southeast-Asian-Americans-1.pdf>

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WHEREAS, We aim to help our communities as they continue to be terrorized by policies of mass deportation.

WHEREAS, These events and more are being worked on in collaboration with other Southeast Asian organizations throughout the United States to plan various events during Week 8.

WHEREAS, We will have a photo campaign on Bruin Walk and are currently in the process of working with the Asian American Studies Center to plan a Southeast Asian Deportation Lecture Series.

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, That USAC supports Southeast Asian Solidarity Week: Students Against Deportation.⁶

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, That USAC supports current and future anti-deportation efforts on UCLA's campus.⁷

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, That USAC will continue to support immigrant rights and undocumented individuals.

⁶ <https://www.facebook.com/events/2311140612509052/>

⁷ <https://www.facebook.com/events/2169053553315281/>