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COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 2, MANHATTAN

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March 24, 2017

Brad Hoylman
NY State Senator
322 8th Ave. Suite 1700
New York, NY 10001

Deborah Glick
NY State Assembly Member
853 Broadway, Room 1518
New York, NY 10003

Dear Senator Hoylman and Assembly Member Glick:

At its Full Board meeting on March 23, 2017 Community Board #2, Manhattan (CB#2, Man.) adopted the following resolutions:

Consideration of a resolution related to the Assembly-passed Liberty Act and companion Senate bill re: impacts on immigrants and their families residing in the CB2 area.

WHEREAS: immigrant communities helped establish many neighborhoods of Community Board No. 2, Manhattan (CB2), long before these areas became desirable, and

WHEREAS: immigrants and their descendants are a vital and essential element of our neighborhoods – our friends and colleagues, our small business owners and employees, our children’s schoolmates, and our much-appreciated neighbors, and

WHEREAS: recent national executive orders threaten our foreign-born neighbors, and

WHEREAS: these orders make our communities less safe because some CB2 residents, regardless of individual immigration status, may now feel intimidated, mistrustful or fear deportation when reporting a crime or interacting with police or other authorities, and

WHEREAS: existing laws already specify actions and penalties for those who are convicted of serious crimes, and

WHEREAS: removing neighbors from our community without proof of wrongdoing or upon trumped-up or minor charges, without being presumed innocent until proven guilty, threatens our way of life, and

WHEREAS: the Liberty Act (A3049) was passed by the New York State Assembly in February of 2017, with Assembly member Deborah J. Glick as a co-sponsor, and

WHEREAS: the companion bill (S4075A) is now in the New York State Senate with Senator Brad Hoylman as a co-sponsor, and

WHEREAS: the New York State Liberty Act bill would make New York a sanctuary state and protect immigrants from being victimized by unjust deportation procedures and racial profiling.

The legislation would:

- Ensure anyone in need of vital government services would not be unnecessarily questioned about their immigration status.
- Prohibit local law enforcement agencies from stopping or arresting a person based on perceived immigration status or a suspected violation of federal immigration law.
- Prevent local law enforcement from inquiring about the immigration status of persons contacting such agencies – including victims and witnesses.
- Provide the right to legal representation for all people facing deportation proceedings.
- Comply with federal law and set forth constitutionally-permissible state and local procedures to assure fair and just treatment for all who reside in CB2.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that CB2 Manhattan supports the Liberty Act as passed in the Assembly and urges the companion bill's passage in the Senate, and asks Governor Cuomo to sign it into law as quickly as possible.

VOTE: Passed, with 34 Board Members in favor.

Abstain: 3 Board Members (D. Borelli, T. Connor, R. Sanz)

Please advise us of any decision or action taken in response to these resolutions.

Sincerely,



Terri Cude, Chair
Community Board #2, Manhattan



Sasha Greene, Chair
Social Services Committee
Community Board #2, Manhattan

TC/EM

c: Hon. Jerrold L. Nadler, Congressman
Hon. Carolyn Maloney, Congresswoman
Hon. Nydia Velázquez, Congresswoman
Hon. Daniel L. Squadron, NY State Senator
Hon. Yuh-line Niou, Assembly Member
Hon. Gale Brewer, Man. Borough President
Hon. Corey Johnson, Council Member
Hon. Margaret Chin, Council Member
Hon. Rosie Mendez, Council Member