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2 Chairman Phil Mendelson

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5 Councilmember Elissa Silverman

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8 Councilmember Charles Allen

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11 Councilmember Jack Evans

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14 Councilmember David Grosso

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17 Councilmember Trayon White, Sr.

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20 Councilmember Anita Bonds

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23 A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

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27 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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32 To declare the sense of the Council in support of calling upon Congress to pass legislation  
33 granting security and permanent legal status to residents living under Temporary  
34 Protected Status and the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program,

35 including parents of U.S. citizens and DACA recipients, to expand family-based legal  
36 immigration, and to ensure the prevention of the separation of families as a result of  
37 immigration status.

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39 RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this  
40 resolution may be cited as the “Sense of the Council Supporting the Protection of Immigrant  
41 Families Resolution of 2019”.

42 Sec. 2. The Council finds that:

43 (1) President Obama issued executive orders which deferred deportation and  
44 provided work authorization for undocumented individuals brought to this country as minors and  
45 further established the practice of prosecutorial discretion to defer deportations until Congress  
46 could arrive at a permanent solution. Despite the lack of a permanent solution to these residents’  
47 status, the current administration has sought to cancel those practices, which represent a just  
48 relief from continued threat of deportation.

49 (2) At least 325,000 Salvadorans, Nicaraguans, Hondurans, and Haitians are  
50 living in the United States with Temporary Protected Status (TPS) and have established families  
51 with 273,000 U.S. born citizen children. Nearly two-thirds of those with TPS came from El  
52 Salvador, and the largest population of Salvadoran TPS residents – over 32,000 – reside in the  
53 District of Columbia. Salvadorans and their families, whether U.S. citizens, residents under TPS,  
54 or other immigration status, represent the largest Hispanic population in the DC region, and have  
55 contributed immeasurably to the District’s culture and economy.

56 (3) As a result of continued federal inaction, the livelihoods of residents with TPS  
57 and their families and communities continue to be under threat. Salvadoran TPS status was  
58 nearly revoked this calendar year, and though an extension was given until 2021, there is no

59 permanent solution for continued residency of Salvadoran TPS recipients or an assured sense of  
60 security.

61 (4) There has been a 250 percent increase in deportations of those with no  
62 criminal records over the last year, with a majority of those deportations being comprised of  
63 those with families and children.

64 (5) The separation of children from their mother or father, or from both, is a  
65 violation of the human rights that should be afforded to all children; undocumented children and  
66 children of undocumented parents are currently forced to endure the unimaginable pain and  
67 damage of family separation or deportation on a daily basis.

68 (6) The five million U.S. citizen children and two million children brought to this  
69 nation as infants should not be deprived of their right to remain with their families through  
70 unnecessary separations as the result of political inaction.

71 Sec. 3. It is the sense of the Council that Congress expeditiously pass legislation  
72 to create permanent protections for those under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals  
73 program and the Temporary Protected Status Program; create a renewable and retroactive visa  
74 program for parents and spouses of U.S. citizens and parents and spouses of DACA recipients;  
75 craft a pathway to citizenship for DACA and TPS recipients; and reunite families separated at  
76 the border.

77 Sec. 4. The Council shall transmit a copy of this resolution, upon its adoption, to the  
78 Leaders of both the Democratic and Republican party of the United States House of  
79 Representatives and of the United States Senate, the Attorney General of the United States, and  
80 the Office of the Mayor.

81 Sec. 5. This resolution shall take effect immediately.