
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 854 Session of
2020

INTRODUCED BY KENYATTA, BURGOS, FIEDLER, KINSEY, SANCHEZ,
INNAMORATO, HOHENSTEIN, SCHWEYER, SCHLOSSBERG, YOUNGBLOOD,
LEE, ISAACSON, GREEN, FRANKEL, MADDEN AND GAINNEY,
APRIL 27, 2020

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, APRIL 27, 2020

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Congress of the United States to include undocumented
2 residents in all future COVID-19 stimulus and recovery plans.

3 WHEREAS, The current COVID-19 pandemic has had an
4 unprecedented impact on the United States, leading to the deaths
5 of over 28,500 people; and

6 WHEREAS, The financial impact of the pandemic has led to the
7 unemployment of millions of Americans; and

8 WHEREAS, The burden of job loss on undocumented residents and
9 their families continues to worsen even as economic aid and
10 recovery efforts are put into place; and

11 WHEREAS, Undocumented residents have proven time and time
12 again that they make important contributions to the economy and
13 our nation; and

14 WHEREAS, The country depends on the contribution and labor of
15 undocumented residents, many who work in industries, such as
16 construction and food service, that are essential to our
17 prosperity and growth as a nation; and

1 WHEREAS, Undocumented residents cannot access unemployment
2 benefits and will not be receiving stimulus checks, even though
3 they are one of the groups at high risk of financial insecurity
4 due to COVID-19; and

5 WHEREAS, California was the first and only state that has
6 pledged to provide undocumented residents with financial
7 assistance checks and resources; and

8 WHEREAS, Undocumented residents contributed \$13 billion into
9 Social Security funds and \$3 billion to Medicare in 2016, but
10 are not eligible for Social Security benefits; and

11 WHEREAS, Undocumented residents pay an average of \$11.64
12 billion in state and local taxes per year, with about 8% of
13 their income going to taxes; and

14 WHEREAS, Many undocumented residents are living in fear of
15 the continued impact COVID-19 will have on their families;
16 therefore be it

17 RESOLVED, That the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of
18 Pennsylvania urge the United States Congress to include
19 undocumented residents in future COVID-19 stimulus packages and
20 recovery plans; and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That the General Assembly recognize that the lack
22 of Federal support for undocumented residents and their families
23 during this pandemic will have a lasting impact on our nation;
24 and be it further

25 RESOLVED, That the General Assembly recognize and support the
26 undocumented resident population's concerns during this trying
27 time; and be it further

28 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to
29 the presiding officers of each house of Congress and to the
30 members of Congress from Pennsylvania.