

**RESOLUTION NO. 2017-R-\_\_\_\_\_**

**A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING CARBONDALE AS A SAFE AND WELCOMING COMMUNITY**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Carbondale, Illinois, is a municipal corporation created under the laws of the State of Illinois; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Carbondale, Illinois, is a home rule unit of local government under the Illinois Constitution, 1970, Article VII, Section 6; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Article VII, Section 6(a), of the Illinois Constitution, 1970, the City of Carbondale may exercise any power and perform any function pertaining to its government and affairs including, but not limited to, the power to regulate for the protection of the public, health, safety, morals, and welfare; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Carbondale is home to Southern Illinois University which has a significant enrollment of international students representing over 100 countries; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Carbondale has a special relationship with immigrants who have come here to study, conduct research, work, and create businesses; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2003 the City of Carbondale created a Human Relations Commission to protect its citizens from prejudice and the practice of discrimination against any individual or group as a result of their race, color, religion, or national origin or ancestry; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Carbondale draws its strength from the diversity of our residents of all races, religions, and places of origin regardless of immigration status, making Carbondale the cultural center for Southern Illinois; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Carbondale wishes to be a welcoming and safe community to all residents regardless of their citizenship or immigration status; and

**WHEREAS**, our deeply held community values lead us to affirm that Carbondale is a place of safety and opportunity for all families and individuals residing within or visiting our city; and

**WHEREAS**, immigrants and migrants are integral to the local economy and typically provide in-demand, highly-skilled technical talent and a source of young families, resulting in further induced investment and foreign direct investment, and also resulting in higher wages for native-born workers; and

**WHEREAS**, Southern Illinois University is crucial to the regional economy, and allowing an unwelcoming and uncertain climate toward immigrants and international non-immigrants will depress enrollment and faculty retention and have a tremendous ripple effect on the surrounding area; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Carbondale devotes resources to law enforcement for the purpose of assuring the safety of all persons who reside in or visit our community and should be used for local priorities and not for participation in federal immigration enforcement; and

**WHEREAS**, the power to regulate immigration is exclusive to the federal government and the enforcement of immigration law is a function of the federal government that currently resides with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) of the Department of Homeland Security; and

**WHEREAS**, no federal law compels the local police to participate in the enforcement of federal immigration law and any such requirement would raise significant anti-commandeering issues under the Tenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, any perception that the local police are involved in the enforcement of immigration law will undermine the police-community relationships that have been built up over the years, and thereby undermine the ability of the police to keep the community safe; and

**WHEREAS**, it is essential to public safety that every person, regardless of immigration status, who is a victim of or a witness to a crime feels comfortable reporting crimes or aiding in the investigation of crimes.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CARBONDALE, ILLINOIS, AS FOLLOWS:**

**SECTION 1.** That the City Council deems it is in the best interest of the citizens of the City of Carbondale to adopt this resolution establishing Carbondale as a safe and welcoming community.

**SECTION 2.** The Carbondale Police Department will continue to respond to requests from immigrant communities to defend them against all crimes, including hate crimes, to assist people with limited language proficiency and to connect immigrants with social services.

**SECTION 3.** The City of Carbondale concurs with and joins the Illinois Association of Police Chiefs in opposing any initiative that would mandate that state and local law enforcement agencies play a role in the enforcement of immigration law.

**SECTION 4.** The City of Carbondale will continue working with community advocates, policy experts, and legal advocates to defend the human rights of immigrants.

**SECTION 5.** The City of Carbondale will reject any effort to create religious litmus tests or registries of individuals based on religion, nationality, or ethnicity.

**SECTION 6.** The City Council and the Mayor will join with councils from other communities around the country to stand with our immigrant residents and defend policies that welcome and protect immigrants.

**SECTION 7.** No City employee, official or department of the City of Carbondale shall inquire into the immigration status of residents or condition the provision of City benefits, opportunities or services on matters related to citizenship or immigrations status unless required to do so by state or federal law or by a court order.

**SECTION 8.** That this Resolution shall take effect upon its passage, approval, recording, and publication in pamphlet form in accordance with law.