

RESOLUTION NO. 20140626-079

WHEREAS, as of 2012, the American Community Survey reports that 17.5% of Travis County residents are foreign-born; and

WHEREAS, over 63,000 native-born children and over 16,000 foreign born children in Travis County live in families with at least one foreign-born parent; and

WHEREAS, immigrants comprise a vital part of our workforce with a majority of foreign born individuals being within the prime working ages of 25-54; and

WHEREAS, the median household income of immigrants is \$22,325 and 42% of immigrants earn less than \$15,000 a year compared to 34% of all native born individuals at the same income level; and

WHEREAS, approximately 1 in 5 immigrants in Travis County lives below the federal poverty level with 35% of the foreign-born population living at or near the poverty level; and

WHEREAS, Travis County strives to maximize quality of life for all people in Travis County, protect vulnerable populations, invest in social and economic well-being, promote healthy living, and build a shared understanding of our community; and

WHEREAS, Travis County is the primary provider of services to immigrants residing in unincorporated areas; and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin's Commission on Immigrant Affairs (Commission) believes it is imperative that the City of Austin and Travis County continue to assume a proactive role to address the needs and realities of the immigrant community as a whole and align their strategies when and where appropriate; and

WHEREAS, the Commission passed Recommendation 20140414-004C requesting that the City Council approve the addition of a position to the Commission on Immigrant Affairs that will be filled by a Travis County appointed representative; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

The City Manager is directed to prepare an ordinance amending section 2-1-125 of the City Code to add one additional member to the City of Austin's Commission on Immigrant Affairs to be appointed by Travis County, and to bring the ordinance for Council consideration no later than August 21, 2014.

ADOPTED: June 26, 2014

ATTEST: 
Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk