

Rep. Runestad offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 53.

A resolution to memorialize the Congress of the United States to oppose the President's recent executive actions regarding the non-enforcement of our nation's immigration laws and take all necessary corrective actions.

Whereas, The U.S. Constitution grants Congress the plenary authority to set our nation's immigration laws. Under this authority, Congress circumscribed the enforcement duties of the executive branch regarding immigration in the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952; and

Whereas, On November 20, 2014, the President issued a series of executive actions pertaining to the administration of our nation's immigration laws. Through these actions, eligibility for the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program was expanded; a new program, the Deferred Action for Parents of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents (DAPA), was established; and provisional waivers of unlawful presence was expanded to include the spouses, sons, and daughters of lawful permanent residents. These orders also included changes to the immigrant and nonimmigrant visa work programs; and

Whereas, These executive actions offer work permits to aliens residing unlawfully in the United States, expand on existing policies that shield these individuals from legal enforcement mechanisms, and pave a clear path to citizenship. Amnesty by another name, the expanded scope of the deferred action programs will allow millions of unlawful aliens brought into the United States as children and the unlawfully-present parents of citizen-children or legally-authorized children to be rewarded for their illicit actions with legal status. Furthermore, at a time when nearly 10 million Americans are out of work and more than 92 million are not participating in the work force, the President's actions give amnestied aliens legal access to highly-coveted American jobs; and

Whereas, The President's unilateral changes to our nation's immigration system exceeds the purview of presidential authority and subjugates the legislature's authority and responsibilities. Moreover, policies like these that direct law enforcement agents to ignore illegal actions undermine the rule of law and are inherently unjust to law-abiding people. Congress must protect those who follow the law and take action to preserve the separation of powers by limiting the President's discretion to discriminate among the issues or cases he chooses and fully implement the enforcement requirements laid out in statute; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we memorialize the Congress of the United States to oppose the President's recent executive actions regarding the non-enforcement of our nation's immigration laws and take all necessary corrective actions; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.