RESOLUTION NO. 2010-02

on Local Immigration Enforcement

WHEREAS Measures that give local law enforcement the authority to enforce federal immigration law are a redirected attempt at dealing with the state consequences of a broken federal immigration system; and

WHEREAS Such measures are ineffective because they target only the supply and ignore the demand side of the economic phenomenon of immigration; and

WHEREAS Involvement in federal immigration laws will increase costs for local law enforcement at a time when they are already facing budget shortfalls, overcrowded jails, and layoffs; and

WHEREAS Studies have shown that violent crime, 911 call response times, and unserved arrest warrants have increased in areas where law enforcement is involved in immigration; and

WHEREAS Similar initiatives across the United States have divided communities and devastated local business and commerce; and

WHEREAS Increased litigation will result because the insufficient training and the complexity of immigration law; and

WHEREAS Crimes, especially rape, domestic violence and human trafficking, will go unreported in immigrant communities because of fear of the police, increasing crime in those neighborhoods and surrounding neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS The risk of racial profiling against Latinos will increase; and

WHEREAS The dialogue regarding such measures has been usurped by hate groups and extremist/nativist groups seeking to perpetuate an anti-immigrant sentiment that translates into an anti-Latino sentiment; and be it further

RESOLVED THAT:

The Ohio Latino Affairs Commission OPPOSES federal, state, or local legislation or policy that authorizes local law enforcement to enforce immigration law in Ohio.

March 26, 2010.

[Signatures]