

1 State of Arkansas
2 85th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2005

SCR 9

4
5 By: Senator Bisbee
6 By: Representatives Anderson, Kenney

7
8
9 **SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

10 ENCOURAGING CONGRESS AND THE PRESIDENT TO CREATE
11 AN EXPEDITED NATURALIZATION PROCESS FOR
12 UNDOCUMENTED MINORS WHEN THE MINORS REACH THE AGE
13 OF MAJORITY AND TO EXEMPT THE MINORS FROM
14 PROSECUTION WHEN THE MINORS COME FORWARD FOR
15 NATURALIZATION AT THE AGE OF MAJORITY.

16
17 **Subtitle**

18 ENCOURAGING CONGRESS AND THE PRESIDENT
19 TO CREATE AN EXPEDITED NATURALIZATION
20 PROCESS FOR UNDOCUMENTED MINORS AND TO
21 EXEMPT THE MINORS FROM PROSECUTION WHEN
22 THE MINORS COME FORWARD FOR
23 NATURALIZATION.

24
25
26 WHEREAS, Arkansas has a large population of immigrants; and

27
28 WHEREAS, most immigrants who come to Arkansas are pursuing the American
29 dream and are willing to work hard to get ahead; and

30
31 WHEREAS, immigrants can stabilize shrinking populations, facilitate
32 economic growth, revitalize neighborhoods, replenish work forces, and
33 increase property values; and

34
35 WHEREAS, immigration can be the key to a state's, city's, or town's
36 growth and prosperity; and



1
2 WHEREAS, more education is needed to raise the level of informed
3 awareness about immigration among both the general public and policymakers;
4 and

5
6 WHEREAS, the public should help immigrants successfully integrate into
7 their adopted communities; and

8
9 WHEREAS, minors of undocumented immigrants who are in this country are
10 here by virtue of their parents or family members moving to this country and
11 lack the ability to pursue naturalization; and

12
13 WHEREAS, it is good public policy to protect and help the people of our
14 state; and

15
16 WHEREAS, it is good public policy to help minors achieve their goals
17 and to successfully become participating Americans, both in society and in
18 the work place; and

19
20 WHEREAS, Congress, with the support of the President, should create an
21 expedited naturalization process for undocumented minors when they reach the
22 age of majority and have a high school diploma or the equivalent from a
23 United States high school and have lived in the United States for at least
24 five (5) years; and

25
26 WHEREAS, Congress, with the support of the President, should create a
27 process that shields undocumented minors from prosecution when they come
28 forward for naturalization at the age of majority, and have a high school
29 diploma or equivalent from a United States high school and have lived in the
30 United States for a least five (5) years,

31
32 NOW THEREFORE,

33 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE EIGHTY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE
34 STATE OF ARKANSAS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN:

35
36 THAT the Senate of the State of Arkansas encourages Congress and the

1 President to create an expedited naturalization process for undocumented
2 minors who have a high school diploma or equivalent from a United States high
3 school and have lived in the United States for at least five (5) years when
4 the minors reach the age of majority and to exempt the minors from
5 prosecution when the minors come forward for naturalization at the age of
6 majority.

7
8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon adoption of this resolution, the
9 Secretary of the Senate of the State of Arkansas shall transmit a copy to
10 Congress and to the President of the United States.

11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36