

Approved by the Board of Directors, June 2, 2010**A Resolution**

Calling for the immediate repeal of anti-immigrant legislation by the State of Arizona, and for other actions.

Whereas on April 23, 2010, the Governor of Arizona signed into law SB 1070, as amended by HB 2162, whose provisions empower police officers to detain anyone suspected of being in the United States illegally;

Whereas such law empowers citizens to sue state or local agencies for failure to enforce such provisions;

Whereas SB 1070 makes it a state crime to fail to carry immigration documents, which means that any person who is lawfully stopped and then suspected to be an undocumented immigrant may be detained for failure to present proof of citizenship or immigration status;

Whereas we believe such provisions constitute fundamental violations of fairness and due process;

Whereas the Arizona Police Chiefs Association and police officers across the country have criticized SB 1070 for interfering with their law enforcement responsibilities and for making immigrants reluctant to come forward with information pertaining to a crime;

Whereas, as *The New York Times* has argued, SB 1070 will inevitably “lead to more racial profiling, hobble local law enforcement, and open government agencies to frivolous, politically driven lawsuits”;

Whereas President Obama has said that SB 1070 threatens “to undermine basic notions of fairness that we cherish, as well as the trust between police and our communities that is so crucial to keeping us safe”;

Whereas the constitutionality of SB 1070 is being challenged;

Whereas the Government of Mexico has officially expressed its deep concern over SB 1070’s potential effects on the civil rights of Mexican nationals in the

United States and the relationship between Mexico and Arizona;

Whereas a statement from the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights called SB 1070 part of “a disturbing pattern of legislative activity hostile to ethnic minorities and immigrants,” and expressed concern over its “vague standards and sweeping language . . . , which raise serious doubts about the law’s compatibility with relevant international human rights treaties to which the United States is a party”;

Whereas the Secretary General of the Organization of American States has called SB 1070 “discriminatory against immigrants, and in particular against the population of Latin American origins”;

Whereas we believe SB 1070 ignores the fundamental rights that every person present in the United States possesses regardless of immigration status;

Whereas the president of Arizona State University has said: “By enacting this bill, Arizona sends a signal to the rest of world that, as a result of deficient national immigration policy, it is willing to impose egregious state laws on the citizens of Arizona solely for the purpose of demonstrating the depth of its frustration with the stresses and strains that it attributes to the failures of the federal government”;

Whereas the president of Arizona State University has said that the consequences of SB 1070 are real and meaningful and “such a wrong-headed approach does not offer real solutions to the problems faced by the State of Arizona”;

Whereas the president of the University of Arizona has stated that the university is losing good applicants who are choosing to study in other states as a result of SB 1070, and other universities are expressing similar concerns;

Whereas the president of the University of Arizona has also said that the action by the Arizona state government could impact many innocent people and that the university is gravely concerned about the potential impact on critical international partnerships such as those with institutions in Mexico;

Whereas the president of Arizona's Thunderbird School of Global Management, more than half of whose students come from abroad, has expressed concern over the school's future because of SB 1070;

Whereas the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) and the Autonomous University of San Luis Potosi have already canceled student-exchange agreements with Arizona universities;

Whereas we commend our colleagues working in higher education in the State of Arizona for doing everything they can to ensure a safe and welcoming environment for international students, despite the unmistakably negative message SB 1070 sends to many of them;

Whereas NAFSA: Association of International Educators is dedicated to promoting educational exchange, which U.S. national leaders have consistently stated is vital to the national interests of the United States;

Whereas NAFSA data show that spending by international students and their families contributed \$228,435,000 to the economy of the State of Arizona in the 2008-09 academic year;

Whereas responsible academic studies have repeatedly demonstrated that immigrants bring economic benefit to the United States;

Whereas, according to a study by the Udall Center for Studies in Public Policy, "the total economic output attributable to Arizona's immigrant workers was \$44 billion in 2004, which sustained roughly 400,000 full-time jobs";

Whereas international students who have come to study at U.S. universities have also made enormous contributions to gains this nation has made in technology, medicine, materials, and so many other academic areas critical to our nation's defense and economic prosperity;

Whereas U.S. public diplomacy strategies cannot be effective if unwelcoming immigration laws are enacted in this country;

Whereas the situation faced by many undocumented immigrants in the United States is largely the result of broken and outdated immigration laws that are incongruous with the country's need – and US employers' desire - to attract them to work here;

Whereas numerous associations, unions, citizens groups, and cities have announced boycotts of the State of Arizona;

Whereas the only point that virtually all parties to the dispute over SB 1070 agree on is that the ultimate remedy for such misguided measures is the enactment of federal comprehensive immigration reform legislation;

Now, NAFSA: Association of International Educators, reflecting the resolution of the membership at its 62nd Annual Conference, **resolves** that the association—

(1) urges the State of Arizona to repeal SB 1070 immediately;

(2) urges other States to refrain from enacting similar measures;

(3) urges the United States Congress to move expeditiously to enact comprehensive immigration reform legislation;

(4) resolves not to hold national or regional meetings in the State of Arizona until this situation is rectified; and

(5) requests that the executive director—

(a) provide opportunities, through the association's grassroots advocacy network, for members of the association to engage in educational outreach and grassroots action in support of this resolution, and urges the members to participate in these opportunities;

(b) communicate this resolution to the appropriate parties.

June 2, 2010
Kansas City, Missouri