

RES 267-18

A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE CONCERN OF THE CITY OF BOISE ON THE FORCED SEPARATION OF IMMIGRANT FAMILIES AT THE SOUTHERN BORDER.

WHEREAS, the Department of Homeland Security has confirmed that in a six-week period, 2,000 children – an average of almost 50 per day – were separated from their parents or guardians at the U.S.–Mexico border; and

WHEREAS, the policy of forced separation of innocent immigrant children from their parents at our southern border is barbaric and un-American; and

WHEREAS, this policy is a betrayal of the values that our nation was founded on and undermines our standing as world leaders in the causes of justice and liberty; and

WHEREAS, the families that are being separated are in many instances in their most desperate hour of need and are fleeing violence and oppression; and

WHEREAS, these families deserve our kindness, not to be punished when they are seeking refuge; and

WHEREAS, we as a city do not approve of the use of children as nothing more than a negotiating tactic in the ongoing political battle over immigration reform; and

WHEREAS, there has been a long history of Mexican people in Idaho and in Boise. At one point in time, the border between the U.S. and Mexico was located at what is now the border between Idaho and Nevada; and

WHEREAS, Boise has for many years been designated as a refugee resettlement community that welcomes those fleeing war, violence and oppression, no matter where they come from; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

We call on the members of the United States House of Representatives, the United States Senate and the President of the United States to reverse this policy and to direct staff to send a letter to the members of the Idaho congressional delegation expressing our outrage and concerns.