ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS July 2022

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR LEGAL MIGRANTS ARRIVING TO THE WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN REGION AS A RESULT OF POLICIES IMPLEMENTED BY BORDER STATES

The board will be asked to adopt Resolution R34-2022 expressing support for the funding efforts initiated by the District of Columbia's Congressional Representative Eleanor Holmes-Norton seeking additional federal resources to sustain the human services needs of those arriving to the Washington metropolitan region. Furthermore, the board directs the Human Services Policy Committee to consider this issue at an upcoming meeting to further explore opportunities for establishing partnerships and coordinating efforts which result in increased supportive services, and directs the Executive Director, or his designee to work with local Human Services Directors, Emergency Managers, nonprofit relief agencies and other appropriate organizations to facilitate the coordination of policies, programs and response efforts in support of the migrants.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt Resolution R34-2022.

REGION FORWARD COALITION METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS 777 North Capitol Street, N.E. Washington, D.C. 20002

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR LEGAL MIGRANTS ARRIVING TO THE WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN REGION AS A RESULT OF POLICIES IMPLEMENTED BY BORDER STATES

WHEREAS, the Governors of Texas and Arizona have initiated policies seeking to relocate recent legal migrants to the United States from their communities to the Washington metropolitan region as a political statement of protest to federal immigration policy; and

WHEREAS, the Washington metropolitan region is currently receiving several hundred migrants to the region weekly who typically are in need of human services including temporary housing assistance, food, clothing, transportation, and healthcare; and

WHEREAS, a lack of coordination and cooperation among those states engaged in the transport of migrants, the jurisdictions of the Washington metropolitan region, and the non-governmental organizations providing relief unduly compounds the difficulties of those traveling to the region; and

WHEREAS, the federal government has an obligation to act in support of local jurisdictions to provide the necessary and basic services required of the migrants arriving to the region; and

WHEREAS, Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC) will introduce an emergency appropriations bill for the current fiscal year (2022) to provide additional funding for the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP) for humanitarian assistance to migrants.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THE REGION FORWARD COALITION REQUESTS THAT THE COG BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

- Consider a Resolution of the Board expressing support for the funding efforts initiated by the District of Columbia's Congressional Representative Eleanor Holmes-Norton seeking additional federal resources to sustain the human services needs of those arriving to the Washington metropolitan region;
- 2. Request that COG staff continue to work with local Human Services Directors, Emergency Managers, nonprofit relief agencies and other appropriate organizations to facilitate the coordination of policies, programs and response efforts in support of the migrants; and
- 3. Request that COG's Human Services Policy Committee consider this issue at an upcoming meeting to further explore opportunities for establishing partnerships and coordinating efforts which result in increased supportive services.