

RESOLUTION – Stop 287(g) Campaign

WHEREAS, the 287(g) program, which was passed as part of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 and is provided for in Section 287(g) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA), permits the federal government to deputize inadequately trained state and local law enforcement officers to enforce federal immigration law; and

WHEREAS, a series of investigations and reports, including findings from the Department of Homeland Security Office of Inspector General and the U.S. Government Accountability Office, have found that the 287(g) program emboldens law enforcement to engage in illegal racial profiling tactics that target immigrant and Latino communities, and that there are insufficient internal controls to ensure adequate oversight of local law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Justice found that Sheriff Joe Arpaio of Maricopa County in Arizona used a 287(g) agreement with ICE to engage in a pattern and practice of constitutional violations against Latinos, based on rampant racial profiling; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Justice found that North Carolina’s Alamance County Sheriff’s Office similarly used a 287(g) agreement to engage in a pattern and practice of constitutional violations that included detaining Latino residents, establishing checkpoints into predominantly Latino neighborhoods, and engaging in racial profiling; and

WHEREAS, the 287(g) program diverts much needed local law enforcement resources toward implementing a constitutionally questionable immigration enforcement agenda; and

WHEREAS, the 287(g) program has not made and will not make local communities safer, and it has not served as an effective tool of immigration enforcement; and

WHEREAS, 287(g) agreements identify a state or locality as anti-immigrant, which research has shown can lead to negative health outcomes for Latinos in those communities; and

WHEREAS, communities with 287(g) agreements undermine public safety by fostering an environment of fear and hostility that creates distrust between community members and local law enforcement, and discourages immigrants and others from coming forward when they are the victims of crime and from aiding law enforcement in the investigation of crime; and

WHEREAS, the Trump Administration is promoting anew 287(g) agreements, and 18 new jurisdictions have applied to join the 287(g) program;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the NHLA calls upon the Federal Government to end the 287(g) program, and for all states and localities to terminate any 287(g) agreements with ICE; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the NHLA will wage a campaign to discourage jurisdictions from entering into new 287(g) agreements with ICE or continuing existing agreements, instead urging them to adopt

community trust policies designed to strengthen the relationship among local law enforcement, city officials, and community members.