



**HISPANIC/LATINO QUALITY OF LIFE RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMISSION
RECOMMENDATION 202503XX-X**

Immigrant Legal Services

Date: March XX, 2025

Subject: FY26 Budget Recommendations

Motioned By: Commissioner

Seconded By: Commissioner

WHEREAS, the City of Austin has a long-standing commitment to being a welcoming, inclusive, and diverse community that values all of its residents, regardless of immigration status; and

WHEREAS, immigrants contribute significantly to the cultural, social, and economic fabric of Austin, but despite these contributions, many immigrants face significant barriers to accessing legal services; and

WHEREAS, we continue to hear from the community that legal services funding is crucial; and

WHEREAS, there are immigrants who need access to counsel and cannot afford attorneys, especially immigrants facing removal proceedings; and

WHEREAS, the growing uncertainty surrounding federal immigration policies increases the need for legal assistance and protections, and the potential cuts to federal grants and funding for immigrant legal services; and

WHEREAS, it is essential that immigrant communities obtain accurate advice and assistance; and

WHEREAS, the people most impacted by the complicated changes in immigration policy and funding are low-income immigrants; and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin funds legal services for low income immigrants who are Austin residents, and there continues to be an unmet need;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Hispanic/Latino Quality of Life Resource Advisory Commission recommends funding immigrant legal services with a \$1,000,000 5-year contract to continue services currently being provided.

Vote

For:

Against:

Abstain:

Absent:

Commissioner Neri, Commissioner Silva, Commissioner Afifi, Commissioner Perales,
Commissioner Castañeda, Commissioner Galvan, Commissioner Jackson Jr.

Attest:

XX XX, Chair