



***In the City Council, February 1, in the year of Two Thousand and Eighteen***

Upon the recommendation of Councilor Marianne LaBarge, Councilor William H. Dwight, and Councilor James Nash

R-18.031

Resolution calling for DHS to extend Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for all nationals who cannot safely return to their home countries.

**WHEREAS:** Northampton is a Sanctuary City and we maintain a long and proud history as a community that supports, values, and respects immigrants, regardless of their status of documentation, and we embrace refugees escaping war and natural disasters; and

**WHEREAS:** Temporary Protected Status (TPS) is a form of immigration status that provides employment authorization and protection from deportation for foreign nationals who cannot be safely returned to their home countries; and

**WHEREAS:** It is estimated that ending TPS for immigrants from El Salvador, Haiti and Honduras would result in a \$6.9 billion reduction to Social Security and Medicare contributions over a decade, and the deportation of these individuals would cost taxpayers approximately \$3.1 billion dollars; and

**WHEREAS:** TPS keeps families together, safe, and productive while their countries of origin are still struggling with a lack of jobs and crime; and

**WHEREAS:** The City of Northampton recognizes the overwhelmingly positive contributions of TPS holders and their families to the economy, social fabric, diversity and well-being of our community;

**WHEREAS:** The Department of Homeland Security (DHS), has decided to not extend designations of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for all nationals that currently hold TPS including over 300,000 Salvadoran, Honduran, Nicaraguan and Haitian immigrants; and

**WHEREAS:** In light of the Trump Administration's radical increase of interior and exterior immigration enforcement through executive orders, funding requests, and policy guidance, the continued existence of TPS is very much at risk; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** The Northampton City Council supports the Temporary Protected Status program and is calling on the Department of Homeland Security to reconsider the decision to not extend the TPS program supporting Immigrants and Refugees escaping war, natural disasters, and crime;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to President Donald Trump, Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen, Congressman James McGovern and Massachusetts Senators Edward Markey and Elizabeth Warren on behalf of Northampton City Council.