**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO MEMORIALIZE CONGRESS AND PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA TO EXPEDITIOUSLY ENACT LEGISLATION GRANTING TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS TO ALL QUALIFYING MEXICAN REFUGEES WHO HAVE FLED TO THE UNITED STATES TO ESCAPE MEXICO’S UNCONTROLLED DRUG‑RELATED VIOLENCE, CORRUPT AND INEFFECTIVE LAW ENFORCEMENT ENTITIES, AND OVERT POLITICAL REPRESSION.

Whereas, the United States has a long and distinguished history of providing shelter and support to oppressed people from around the world who, for reasons beyond their control, cannot return home; and

Whereas, since 2006, Mexico has suffered an alarming escalation of deadly drug‑related violence and breakdown in social security; and

Whereas, Mexico’s war on drugs has claimed more than twenty‑three thousand lives and continues to threaten the livelihood of hundreds of thousands more; and

Whereas, possessing little confidence in the ability of the Mexican government, military, or other local or federal officials to provide for their safety, tens of thousands of Mexican nationals have escaped to the United States in search of sanctuary from the escalating violence; and

Whereas, less than two‑percent of Mexican applicants have been granted political asylum in the United States since the outbreak of drug‑related violence in 2006; Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring:

That the members of the General Assembly, by this resolution, memorialize Congress and President Barack Obama to expeditiously enact legislation granting temporary protected status to all qualifying Mexican refugees who have fled to the United States to escape Mexico’s uncontrolled drug‑related violence, corrupt and ineffective law enforcement entities, and overt political repression.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to President Barack Obama, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and each member of the South Carolina Congressional Delegation.

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