

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS RUTHZEE LOUIJEUNE, LIZ BREADON, ENRIQUE J. PEPÉN, COLETTA ZAPATA, CULPEPPER, DURKAN, FITZGERALD, MURPHY, SANTANA, WEBER, AND WORRELL



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

ORDER FOR A HEARING ON A SCALABLE FUNDING MODEL FOR AN IMMIGRANT EMERGENCY RESPONSE FUND

WHEREAS, Boston is home to a large and diverse immigrant population, however shifts in federal immigration policy, particularly changes to Temporary Protected Status and escalating enforcement actions, can rapidly and dramatically destabilize families, workplaces, and neighborhoods with little warning; *and*

WHEREAS, Experiences during the COVID-19 pandemic demonstrated that the City is most effective when it works in coordination with our neighborhood, nonprofit, for-profit, and governmental partners to mobilize resources quickly and respond rapidly to emergency needs; *and*

WHEREAS, While the City of Boston continues to make historic public investments in immigrant legal access, community well-being, and neighborhood support, sudden enforcement surges or federal policy changes may create acute and large-scale situations that exceed what the City alone can handle; *and*

WHEREAS, A scalable, public-private immigrant response fund could strengthen the City's preparedness by leveraging philanthropic resources and activating a coordinated citywide response across neighborhood networks, service providers, employers, and public agencies to rapidly deliver legal defense, family stabilization, or emergency assistance as conditions evolve; ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT;***

ORDERED: That the appropriate committees of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to assess whether an immigrant response fund in partnership with philanthropy could serve as a standing tool to support rapid, coordinated action when existing systems are strained.