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DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF THE SAN FERNANDO VALLEY

March 14th, 2022

RE: DPSFV Supports H.R. 5257 [LIFT the Bar Act]

Representatives of the Honorable San Fernando Valley Delegation:

On behalf of the Democratic Party of the San Fernando Valley (DPSFV), we are pleased to report that our Executive Board voted to support H.R. 5227, which would bolster California's pandemic response and accelerate our community's recovery by improving the health and economic stability of local families.

The LIFT the Bar Act would repeal the five-year bar and related obstacles to care and aid for our most vulnerable families by restoring access to programs like Medicaid, CHIP, and SNAP, by removing the five-year bar and other barriers that deny critical care and aid to people who are lawfully present.

We urge you to please support this important piece of legislation.

DPSFV was founded in 1978 and is chartered by the Los Angeles County Democratic Central Committee. Our organization is the coordinating body for a coalition of twenty-one Democratic Clubs located in the six Assembly Districts (38, 39, 43, 45, 46, and 50) which are wholly or partially in the San Fernando Valley.

The DPSFV Political Action Committee met last month to discuss H.R. 5227 and voted to recommend that the DPSFV Executive Board support this vital piece of legislation. The committee noted that for a quarter century, the "five-year bar" has denied local immigrant families access to health care, food, and other basic necessities every family in this country should have. As the COVID-19 pandemic has made clear, any single year without health care or economic support can prove disastrous and can put family's lives at risk.

We urge you to take leadership by signing on as a co-sponsor of the LIFT the Bar Act and urging congressional leaders to pass it. The five-year-bar was a bad policy when it was created 25 years ago and it's been long enough to establish justice.

Please note that DPSFV will be tracking this bill as it travels through the House of Representatives. Your voting record will be noted and may be considered should you ever seek our endorsement. Your office is always welcome to contact DPSFV if you have any questions.

Sincerely and respectfully,



Chair Sean M. Rivas
Democratic Party of the San Fernando Valley

cc: Assembly Members Rivas, Friedman, Gabriel, Nazarian, Bloom, and Kalra (Author)
Senators Hertzberg, Portantino, Stern and Allen