



HOUSTON HISPANIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF  
THE HOUSTON HISPANIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

A resolution OPPOSING the use of No-Match letters issued by the U.S. Social Security Administration as authority for the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (hereinafter referred to as "ICE") – an agency of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to pursue employers with criminal penalties for failure to act on such letters,

WHEREAS, the Houston Hispanic Chamber of Commerce is the premiere Hispanic organization representing over 900 business owners and professionals in the Greater Houston Area and is the catalyst in the growth of Houston by empowering the Hispanic Community to excel in the economic mainstream;

WHEREAS, the Houston Hispanic Chamber of Commerce is the aggregator of information, resources and promoter of interests related to the Hispanic Community both locally, in the Greater Houston Area, and nationwide;

WHEREAS, 38.2 percent of the Harris County population is now Hispanic making the Hispanic community the largest community in the region and making the Hispanic population in Houston second in the country;

WHEREAS, the U.S. Congress has failed to pass comprehensive immigration reform legislation and now seeks to use these types of enforcement measures which will negatively affect the Latino population, by potentially exposing Hispanics to illegal racial discrimination, affecting employment opportunities and disrupting businesses;

WHEREAS, employers who fail to address the "No Match" letters in accord with the requirements by the ICE, which are themselves confusing and at best contradictory, will be criminally sanctioned; and

WHEREAS, such harsh penalties will result in disruption of businesses and affect the Houston economy;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSTON HISPANIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE THAT:

Our U.S. Congressional Representatives and Senators and the respective federal agencies be notified of our opposition and seek their support in opposition of this unfair and confusing administrative policy; and

FURTHERMORE that our opposition be made known to all our membership and our Hispanic community.

HEREBY approved by the Board of Directors, August 31, 2007.