



CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO IMMIGRANT RIGHTS COMMISSION

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2018

SAN FRANCISCO IMMIGRANT RIGHTS COMMISSION: PROUD TO BE A NATION OF IMMIGRANTS

The decision by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) to remove “nation of immigrants” from its mission statement is a sad commentary on how quickly this nation has veered off course from the core values of fairness, equality and humanity that truly make America great.

America was built by immigrants, from our railroads to our skyscrapers, from agriculture to industry. With the exception of Native Americans, all of our families arrived here from other parts of the world at some point in history. Our diversity as a country not only makes us stronger economically – it defines us as a people.

The way immigrants who arrive on our shores are treated reflects who we are as a nation, and who we want to be. It is the American dream of opportunity and hope for a better and safer life that we all share. New immigrants continue to be drawn here today, believing that through hard work and perseverance, they too can achieve safety, success and prosperity.

We are saddened that the very agency charged with naturalizing new Americans no longer reflects our values.

We continue to believe in and fight for our nation of immigrants.