RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF SECURE BORDERS, ECONOMIC GROWTH, PROSPERITY AND NATIONAL IMMIGRATION POLICY REFORM

WHEREAS, legal immigration is beneficial to America and far exceeds immigration to any other country in the world; and

WHEREAS, a majority of Americans have consistently stated in polls and demonstrated in elections over the past decade they want border security and immigration reform; and

WHEREAS, in an age of global terrorism, drug cartels, human trafficking, and criminal gangs, the presence of millions of unidentified persons in our country poses a grave national security risk to the safety and sovereignty of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the 2012 Platform of the Republican Party recognizes the important economic and cultural contributions that legal immigrants continue to make to our nation and that illegal immigration discredits legal immigration, undermines the sovereignty of the United States and the rule of law and reduces the safety of the citizens. The best deterrent to illegal immigration is a well-functioning program for legal immigration, which we do not have; and

WHEREAS, Americans recognize that for many of those seeking entry in our country, the lack of respect for the rule of law in their country of origin has meant economic exploitation and political oppression; and

WHEREAS, Americans continue to support the mandatory employer use of the S.A.V.E. program prior to the granting of any State or Federal government entitlements or IRS refunds, and we insist upon enforcement in workplace through the E-verify system so that jobs are made available only to legal workers; and

WHEREAS, a majority of Americans support legal immigration and oppose any form of amnesty that would propose a pathway to citizenship for illegal aliens; and

WHEREAS, America's current immigration system is premised upon obsolete public policy, outdated technology and should be replaced with a merit system utilizing the newest technology that focuses on the needs of United States employers and matches the economic and cultural attributes that each immigrant possesses to those needs; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Republican National Committee calls upon both Democrat and Republican members of Congress and the President to immediately authorize and complete construction of the double fence along our southern border that was approved in 2006 and is still not completed and sufficient law enforcement or military personnel to patrol; and create an effective means of enforcement for legal visitors who have not followed the terms of their entry into the country; and step up the penalty for illegally entering the United States from misdemeanor to felony; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Republican National Committee calls upon the President and Congress to implement immigration reform during the 2013 session based upon a merit system that emphasizes the economic contribution of each working immigrant can add to our nation; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Republican National Committee calls upon the President and Congress to create a new class of work permit that allows illegal immigrants who were brought into our country as minor children, and who have not violated any other laws of the U.S. to come forward and register and be allowed to remain and work in the U.S. This new class of legal worker permit holders will not result in an application for citizenship or to petition citizenship for family members. The work permit will require renewal every five (5) years and will require proof of employment or attendance in school during that period; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, that the Republican National Committee calls upon the President and Congress to create a new work permit program that will allow foreign nationals who are currently in the country and have not violated any other laws of the U.S. to come forward and register and be allowed to remain and work in the U.S. The work permit will not result in application for citizenship nor any family members entering the U.S. and will require renewal every two years upon proof of continuous employment with no more than two (2) months per two (2) year period unemployed or convicted of a crime.