

1 [SUPPORTING SENATE BILL 321]

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3 **Resolution supporting Senate Bill 321 (Durazo), as amended, Employment safety**
4 **standards: household domestic services**

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6 WHEREAS, In California, there are over 300,000 household domestic service employees
7 comprised of housekeepers, day laborers and caregivers for children, persons with
8 disabilities, and seniors, who work in private households to care for the health, safety
9 and well-being of the most important aspects of Californians' lives, their families and homes;
10 and

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12 WHEREAS, Currently, two million households in California rely on domestic workers to
13 care for their homes and loved ones, and that number is expected to grow by 52% by 2022;
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16 WHEREAS, The majority of Domestic workers are immigrant women who typically work in
17 isolation in private homes for very low wages and are often the primary breadwinners for
18 their families; and

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20 WHEREAS, Domestic workers across the state of California have joined together to
21 form the California Domestic Workers' Coalition to achieve social and economic justice and
22 secure much-needed protections and implementation and enforcement of those protections,
23 for domestic workers under California's labor laws; and

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1 WHEREAS, In the private home workplace, occupational risks and hazards for
2 domestic workers include physical and ergonomic demands, and exposure to infectious
3 diseases and household cleaning chemicals; as well as the psychological stress resulting
4 from the violation of their rights, including physical, emotional and sexual abuse by
5 employers; and

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7 WHEREAS, Domestic workers' health and safety have been put at severe risk during
8 the recent disasters that have struck California; and

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10 WHEREAS, Currently during the COVID-19 pandemic, domestic workers act as
11 frontline workers providing care to Californians who are most vulnerable to illness, such as
12 seniors and people with compromised immune systems, yet domestic workers remain
13 vulnerable and without protections; and

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15 WHEREAS, In 2011, the California Legislature passed Assembly Concurrent
16 Resolution No. 163, resolved to reject antiquated and long-discredited stereotypes of
17 domestic work and found “domestic workers are entitled to industry-specific protections and
18 labor standards that eliminate discriminatory provisions in the labor laws and guarantee
19 domestic workers basic workplace rights”; and

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21 WHEREAS, California State Senator Maria Elena Durazo has introduced “Employment Safety
22 Standards” Senate Bill 321 which would eliminate the exclusion of household domestic
23 service from Cal/OSHA workplace health and safety protections and ensure that domestic
24 workers have access to health and safety training, information about risks in the workplace,
25 and necessary protective equipment; now, therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, That the Immigrant Rights Commission supports "Employment Safety
2 Standards" State Senate Bill 321 (Durazo), endorsed by the California
3 Domestic Workers' Coalition, to ensure basic protections against work related injury and
4 illness for domestic workers who are absolutely essential to the California economy and
5 who deserve health, safety, respect and dignity at work; and, be it

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7 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Immigrant Rights Commission urges the Mayor's Office
8 and Board of Supervisors to continue to support this effort. A copy of this Resolution will be
9 transmitted to the Mayor's Office, Board of Supervisors, author, Governor, and all state
10 legislators.

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