

## SENATE RESOLUTION No. 37

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### DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A SENATE RESOLUTION to urge the legislative council to assign to the appropriate summer study committee the topic of issuing driver's licenses to residents of Indiana who cannot provide proof of identity and lawful status in the United States.

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**Niezgodski**

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February 18, 2020, read first time and referred to Committee on Public Policy.

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Second Regular Session 121st General Assembly (2020)

## SENATE RESOLUTION No. 37

MADAM PRESIDENT:

I offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

1           A SENATE RESOLUTION to urge the legislative council  
2 to assign to the appropriate summer study committee the topic  
3 of issuing driver's licenses to residents of Indiana who cannot  
4 provide proof of identity and lawful status in the United States.

5           *Whereas, As of 2019, there are approximately 350,000*  
6 *immigrants living in Indiana, 26 percent of whom are*  
7 *undocumented;*

8           *Whereas, Of the over 92,000 undocumented individuals*  
9 *living in Indiana, 60% have lived in the United States for over*  
10 *10 years;*

11           *Whereas, Combined, these undocumented individuals paid*  
12 *over \$92.2 million in state and local taxes in 2017 and many*  
13 *are a part of the Hoosier workforce;*

14           *Whereas, 15 states have already passed legislation*  
15 *allowing undocumented immigrants to obtain different versions*  
16 *of driver's licenses. Individuals in those states must provide*  
17 *specific documentation such as a foreign birth certificate,*  
18 *passport, or consular identification before the state issues them*  
19 *a driver's license;*



1       *Whereas, States that have provided driver's licenses to*  
2       *undocumented immigrants did so under the constitutional*  
3       *authority of the 10<sup>th</sup> Amendment of the United States*  
4       *Constitution and consistent with the Real ID law enacted in*  
5       *2005;*

6       *Whereas, Undocumented immigrants driving on Hoosier*  
7       *roads without a driver's license pose a public safety issue for*  
8       *citizens of Indiana because they are unable to obtain*  
9       *automobile insurance;*

10       *Whereas, Driving without identification also poses a public*  
11       *safety issue for Indiana's law enforcement community, because*  
12       *they are unable to identify individuals during traffic stops.*  
13       *Many law enforcement officials have requested the state act by*  
14       *creating a driver's license for undocumented immigrants;*

15       *Whereas, In states that have provided driver's licences to*  
16       *undocumented immigrants, studies indicate that the uninsured*  
17       *rates in those states has dropped and the number of automobile*  
18       *accidents has decreased;*

19       *Whereas, Undocumented immigrants contribute to Indiana*  
20       *in many ways and allowing them to travel to work, to the*  
21       *doctor, and to their children's schools safely and without fear*  
22       *is important; and*

23       *Whereas, Allowing undocumented immigrants to obtain*  
24       *driver's licenses affects over 92,000 Hoosiers and deserves*  
25       *further study: Therefore,*

26                       *Be it resolved by the Senate of the*  
27                       *General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

28       SECTION 1. That the Indiana Senate urges the legislative  
29       council to assign to an appropriate summer study committee the  
30       topic of issuing driver's licenses to residents of Indiana who



1 cannot provide proof of identity and lawful status in the United  
2 States.

