NEWS RELEASE
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U. S. Commission on Civil Rights Commends President Obama on Issuance of Immigration Accountability Executive Action

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights by majority vote commends President Obama on his issuance of the Immigration Accountability Executive Action, which focuses on repairing some of the fundamental flaws in our current immigration system.

The Commission stated, “We understand the outlined actions are not comprehensive, and in order to fully modernize our system of immigration, Congress will need to act. Nevertheless, the actions taken by the President today allow immigrants to come out of the shadows, expand DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) to protect more DREAMers (Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors), allow families to remain together as they forge ahead toward the American Dream, and protect victims of human trafficking.

“The Commission has shown a historic interest in the issue of immigration to our great nation. In 1980, the Commission issued a systemic examination of U.S. “immigration law, practice and procedure.”¹ The Tarnished Golden Door: Civil Rights Issues in Immigration identified numerous problems with the laws as they were and the manner in which the then-chief immigration agency, the Immigration and Naturalization Service, administered and enforced those laws. The Commission and several of its state advisory committees have periodically held briefings and issued reports concerning discrete issues related to immigration.² In April 2003, the

¹ The Tarnished Golden Door: Civil Rights Issues in Immigration (Sept. 1980), at 3.
The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights is an independent, bipartisan agency charged with advising the President and Congress on civil rights matters and issuing an annual federal civil rights enforcement report. For information about Commission’s reports and meetings, visit http://www.usccr.gov.

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