RESOLUTION NO R 011 96

ACTION PLAN RECOGNIZING THE EXPANDING IMMIGRATION POPULATION OF SUSSEX COUNTY, DELAWARE

WHEREAS, the United States is known as a nation of immigrants because it has received more immigrants than any other country in history; and

WHEREAS, immigrants have helped make the United States the huge, powerful and wealthy nation it is today; and

WHEREAS, Sussex County, Delaware, has an increasing immigrant population; and

WHEREAS, many immigrants seek better education, housing, and employment; and

WHEREAS, many immigrants seek the right to pursue their own religion and political beliefs; and

WHEREAS, many immigrants suffer from difficulty in adjusting to a new way of life, styles and laws, and;

WHEREAS, many immigrants must learn a new language and customs;

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the Sussex County Association of Towns pledge their support to form a partnership with the federal and state governments, and private employers to assist all immigrants with an Action Plan that includes:

the placement of appropriate international traffic and safety signage;

supporting Title VIII, the Civil Rights Act of 1968, commonly referred to as the "Fair Housing Act" by working with the Delaware Housing Authority in creating acceptable housing standards;

encouraging community participation with the immigrant population in athletic and social events;

supporting the Sussex County Library Literacy Programs;

encouraging the Delaware Population Consortium to closely monitor immigrant population in Sussex County, providing data and information to justify local governments' requests for assistance from federal and state governments in the form of loans and grants;

establishing multi-culture educational programs for public safety providers;

encouraging employers to provide wages and benefits to allow immigrants to live without governmental assistance; and

requesting the Delaware congressional representatives to establish an Immigration and Naturalization Service in Sussex County to advise and assist immigrants who wish to become naturalized citizens; and

requesting the Immigration and Naturalization Service to deport illegal immigrants and take action against employers who employ illegal immigrants;

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Resolution will be presented to Governor Thomas R. Carper, Senator William V. Roth, Jr., Senator Joseph R. Biden, and Congressman Michael N. Castle.

I DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING IS A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF RESOLUTION NO. R 011 96 ADOPTED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF SUSSEX COUNTY ON THE 12TH DAY OF MARCH, 1996.

Robin A. Griffith

Clerk of the County Council