



**King County**

**John Wilson**  
King County Assessor

# ***News Release***

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March 5, 2019

## **Executive Constantine and Assessor Wilson introduce successful resolution at National Association of Counties to protect legal immigration**

### **SUMMARY**

Sponsored by King County, a resolution passed by the National Association of Counties yesterday supports current legal immigration levels and opposes limits implemented by the Trump Administration.

### **STORY**

NACo will now include maintaining current levels of legal immigration its federal legislative agenda, thanks to resolution introduced by King County Assessor John Wilson, a member of NACo's Immigration Reform Task Force, and supported by Executive Dow Constantine.

The resolution adopted by the Board of the National Association of Counties (NACo), which represents 40,000 county elected officials, states that regional economic growth depends on a "robust legal immigration system."

"Counties have an interest in ensuring that our employers and industries of all types can reliably hire and retain a qualified and legal workforce that meets their needs, boosts their competitive advantages, and strengthens local economies," read the resolution.

King County's total population has grown by about a quarter million since 2010. Almost half is from people who were born in another country. According to The Seattle Times, there are only two counties in the U.S. — Miami-Dade in Florida and Harris in Texas — that have seen a bigger increase in the number of foreign-born inhabitants.

Of the 2.3 million residents in King County, about 500,000 were born outside of the United States.

“King County is a welcoming community. Immigration has enriched our region, and contributed to unprecedented economic growth,” said Executive Constantine. “I appreciate Assessor Wilson carrying King County’s vision to NACo so we can jointly make the case to Congress and the White House that protecting safe and lawful immigration is profoundly positive for our communities, economies, and America.”

“America’s counties will now advocate on Capitol Hill for reasonable, realistic immigration levels, and against punitive rollbacks and reductions, “ said Assessor Wilson. “This was a great example of urban and rural county officials working together on an important topic for every community's economic well-being. Locally, this was a collaborative effort by King County officials and our many allies in the immigrants' rights community. I thank them all for this amazing effort.”

[Click to read Proposed Resolution](#)

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