



SENATOR KEVIN DE LEÓN

PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

SB 54 (De León) The California Values Act

Purpose

To protect the safety and well-being of all Californians by ensuring that state and local resources are not used to fuel mass deportations, separate families, and ultimately hurt California's economy.

Background

The President has stated publicly that he will order the increased deportation of a broad category of immigrants and that doing so will be a top priority. Any expansion of federal deportation efforts will have a significant effect on California's economy and society.

A relationship of trust between California's immigrant residents and our state and local agencies, including police, schools, and hospitals, is essential to carrying out basic state and local functions. That trust is threatened when state and local agencies are involved in immigration enforcement.

According to the President Obama's Taskforce on 21st Century Policing, "Immigrants often fear approaching police officers when they are victims of and witnesses to crimes and when local police are entangled with federal immigration enforcement. At all levels of government, it is important that laws, policies, and practices not hinder the ability of local law enforcement to build the strong relationships necessary to public safety and community well-being. It is the view of this task force that whenever possible, state and local law enforcement should not be involved in immigration enforcement."¹ A study conducted by the University of Illinois similarly found that 44 percent of Latinos are less likely to contact police officers if they have been the victim of a crime because they fear that police officers will use this interaction as an opportunity to inquire about their immigration status or that of people they know.²

California is already familiar with the harmful effects of entangling local law enforcement agencies with immigration enforcement. Prior to its termination, the discredited "Secure Communities" program (S-Comm) operated in California as an indiscriminate mass deportation program at great cost to California both financially and otherwise. According to a report prepared by Justice Strategies in 2012, when the Secure Communities

¹ Final Report of the President's Taskforce on 21st Century Policing (May 2016).

² Insecure Communities: Latino Perceptions of Police Involvement in Immigration Enforcement, Nik Theodore, Dep't of Urban Planning and Policy, University of Illinois at Chicago (May 2013)

program was still active, California taxpayers spent an estimated \$65 million annually to detain people for ICE.³

For that reason, it is necessary to evaluate the appropriate use of state and local resources for immigration enforcement purposes and recognize the devastating impact deportations have on a state with thousands of mixed status families, and a heavily immigrant workforce.

Proposal

The California Values Act will provide essential safeguards to ensure that police, schools, health facilities, and courts remain accessible to Californians from all walks of life and that California's limited resources are directed to matters of greatest concern to state and local governments.

1. State and local law enforcement agencies and school police and security departments will not engage in immigration enforcement. No state or local resources will be used to investigate, detain, detect, or arrest persons for immigration enforcement purposes. No state or local law enforcement agency will detain or transfer any person for deportation *without a judicial warrant*.
2. State agencies will review their confidentiality policies in order to ensure that eligible individuals are not deterred from seeking services or engaging with state agencies. State agencies shall not collect or share information from individuals unless necessary to perform agency duties.
3. California schools, health facilities, and courthouses will remain safe and accessible to all California residents, regardless of immigration status. Each shall establish and make public policies that limit immigration enforcement on their premises to the fullest extent possible consistent with federal and state law.

Support

Abriendo Puertas/Opening Doors
Alliance for Boys and Men of Color
Alliance San Diego
American Academy of Pediatrics, California
Asian Americans Advancing Justice - California
Asian American Criminal Trial Lawyers Association
Asian Law Alliance
ASPIRE
Bill Wilson Center
California Adolescent Health Collaborative
California Association for Bilingual Education
California Central Valley Journey for Justice
California La Raza Lawyers Association
California Partnership to End Domestic Violence
Californians for Justice Education Fund
Californians Together Coalition

³ See Judith Greene, "The Cost of Responding to Immigration Detainers in California," Justice Strategies Report, August 22, 2012.

Center for Gender & Refugee Studies
Central American Resource Center - Los Angeles
Centro Laboral de Graton
Children's Defense Fund - CA
Courage Campaign
CREDO
Dream Team Los Angeles
Equality California
Esperanza Immigrant Rights Project of Catholic Charities of Los Angeles
Evergreen Teachers Association
Faith in the Valley
Filipino Youth Coalition
Immigrant Legal Resource Center
Inland Coalition for Immigrant Justice
Inland Empire Immigrant Youth Coalition
Koreatown Immigrant Workers Alliance
La Raza Roundtable de California
Latino and Latina Roundtable
Latino Coalition for a Healthy California
Loyola Immigrant Justice Clinic
Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund
Mi Familia Vota
Mixteco/Indigena Community Organizing Project
Monument Impact
Muslim Student Association West
National Lawyers Guild, Los Angeles
North County Immigration Task Force of San Diego
National Council of Jewish Women California
National Day Laborer Organizing Network
National Immigration Law Center
Nikkei for Civil Rights & Redress
Nikkei Progressives
Orange County Immigrant Youth United
Our Family Coalition
Pangea Legal Services
PolicyLink
San Diego Dream Team
San Diego Immigrant Rights Consortium
San Diego La Raza Lawyers Association
San Joaquin Immigrant Youth Collective
Santa Cruz County Immigrant Rights Project
Services, Immigrant Rights, and Education Network
SEIU Local 1021
Somos Mayfair
South Asian Network
Tongan American Youth Foundation
The Children's Partnership
Training Occupational Development Educating Communities Legal Center

Unite Here
Uplift
Village Connect, Inc.
Voices for Progress Education Fund
Warehouse Worker Resource Center
YWCA Glendale

*For more information, please contact Alexandra Salgado, (916) 651-4024,
Alexandra.Salgado@sen.ca.gov*