



Catholic Charities

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990 Eddy Street
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The Honorable Senator Anna Caballero
Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee
State Capitol, Room 412
Sacramento, CA 95814

August 7, 2025

Re: Support for AB 421, AB 49, AB 419, SB 48, and SB 98 to protect the rights of California's immigrant communities

Dear Senator Caballero,

On behalf of Catholic Charities San Francisco, I am writing to express my strong support for California Assembly Bill 49, Assembly Bill 419, Assembly Bill 421, Senate Bill 48, and Senate Bill 98. These pieces of legislation uphold the rights of California's immigrant communities by allowing due process and preventing schools and places of worship from being disrupted by immigration raids.

- Collectively, these bills restrict local agency and educational department employees from broadly sharing information with immigration enforcement agencies without certain criteria being met first. This would prevent unlawful enforcement actions from targeting local communities.
- These bills would also restrict immigration enforcement access to school sites, which would alleviate concerns of students and parents that educational opportunities could be disrupted because of law enforcement actions. Following immigration raids in January, several California schools experienced sharp increases in truancy rates, surging up to 22 percent.¹
- These bills would post notifications of immigration enforcement activities in schools, other government administrative buildings, and on the Internet to provide awareness and education to those in the community who might be most affected. Academic research highlights the importance of Know Your Rights educational programs to helping impacted immigrant communities increase comfort and become better advocates for themselves.²

With immigration enforcement on the rise, our clients are afraid to leave their homes, send their children to school, seek medical care, and attend religious services. California legislation addressing ICE access and information sharing restrictions on school campuses, childcare centers, religious sites, and hospitals is essential to protect our vulnerable clients seeking a better life for their families. In 2024, Catholic Charities served 396 clients and provided 590 consultations to give the immigrant populations the chance to become full participants in the social, civic, and economic fabric of our communities. Our Immigration program helped 16 clients become naturalized citizens and processed 128 DACA applications.

¹ <https://www.sfchronicle.com/california/article/ice-raid-against-farmworkers-reduced-school-days-20383836.php>

² <https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC8804239>

We encourage the California legislature to pass these critical bills to help restore peace of mind to our immigrant community and ensure that their rights are advocated for and protected.

Kind regards,



Ellen Hammerle, Ph.D.
Chief Executive Officer

Catholic Charities San Francisco, Marin, and San Mateo Counties

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Patrick Woody

Chair, Public Interest Board Committee

Catholic Charities

cc: The Honorable Solache, Author, California State Assembly
The Honorable Al Muratsuchi, Author, California State Assembly
The Honorable Liz Ortega, Author, California State Assembly
The Honorable Celeste Rodriguez, Author, California State Assembly
The Honorable Lena Gonzalez, Author, California State Senate
The Honorable Damon Connolly, Author, California State Assembly
The Honorable Sasha Renée Pérez, Author, California State Senate
The Honorable Sharp-Collins, Co-Author, California State Assembly
Members of the Senate Appropriations Committee:
The Honorable Kelly Seyarto, Vice Chair
The Honorable Christopher Cabaldon
The Honorable Megan Dahle
The Honorable Tim Grayson
The Honorable Laura Richardson
The Honorable Aisha Wahab