
SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Sabrina Cervantes, Chair
2025 - 2026 Regular Session

AB 2624 (Bonta) - Privacy for immigration support services providers

Version: July 2, 2026

Policy Vote: P., D.T., & C.P. 7 - 2, JUD.
11 - 2, PUB. S. 5 - 1

Urgency: No

Mandate: Yes

Hearing Date: August 3, 2026

Consultant: Bob Franzoia

Bill Summary: AB 2624 would expand the Secretary of State (SOS) Safe at Home address confidentiality program by adding immigration support services providers, employees, volunteers, clients, and their family members as a new protected participant group.

Fiscal Impact: Estimated \$290,000 in FY 2026-27 and \$154,000 annually thereafter to fund staffing, outreach, training, policies, application processing, and partnerships with immigration support service organizations within the existing Safe at Home program infrastructure.

The bill would also require updates to the Safe at Home Salesforce system and online enrollment portal to accommodate the new applicant category and increase ongoing IT support (General Fund).

Safe at Home participants can request to be in the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) Protected Records Program. DMV anticipates costs of approximately \$325,000 annually to process record suppression applications for the newly eligible persons. Because the program does not include any fee structure, participation would create unfunded Motor Vehicle Account (MVA) impacts.

The MVA, the primary funding account for the DMV and the California Highway Patrol, is facing insolvency. The LAO has noted that, "Until a plan is put in place to address MVA's structural deficit, we recommend the Legislature set a high bar for considering approval of any proposals that create additional MVA cost pressures and accelerate the risk of insolvency." The Governor's FY 2026-2027 Budget projects the MVA will be insolvent as soon as FY 2028-29.

Background: Safe at Home is an address confidentiality program. The program was created in 1998 to allow victims of domestic violence or stalking to obtain an alternate confidential address to be used in public records. Under the program, SOS is responsible for providing a substitute address to program participants while protecting their actual residential addresses and also acts as the participants' agent for service of process, and forwards mail received at the substitute address. A participant must be certified by the enrolling office and may stay in the program for four years unless recertified. Their Safe at Home address is also accepted by California state, county, and city government agencies in lieu of a residential or other mailing address. The program has been repeatedly expanded over time to include additional groups, such as survivors of other crimes, including sexual assault, human trafficking, stalking, and elder or dependent adult abuse, as well as providers of certain health care services, including reproductive health care and gender-affirming care.

Proposed Law: This bill expands the Safe at Home program to “designated immigration support services providers, employees, or volunteers,” which means a person who provides, assists in providing, or receives immigration support services at a designated immigration support services facility. Eligible facilities include locations where immigration support services are provided, including nonprofit organizations offices, Department of Justice-recognized entities, community legal clinics, law offices, accredited representative sites that provide immigration legal services, and health care facilities.

Related Legislation: SB 489 (Alpert) Chapter 1005/1998 established the “Address Confidentiality for Victims of Domestic Violence” program, now referred to as the “Safe at Home” program after a 2000 administrative public facing name change. This was based on the Legislature’s finding that persons attempting to escape from actual or threatened violence frequently establish new names or addresses in order to prevent their assailants or probable assailants from finding them.