

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2624
Author: Bonta (D), et al.
Amended: 7/2/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE PRIV., DIGITAL TECH. & CONS. PROT. COMMITTEE: 7-2, 6/15/26
AYES: Cabaldon, Gonzalez, McNerney, Padilla, Reyes, Umberg, Wiener
NOES: Jones, Ochoa Bogh

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 11-2, 6/23/26
AYES: Umberg, Allen, Ashby, Caballero, Durazo, Laird, Reyes, Stern, Wahab,
Weber Pierson, Wiener
NOES: Niello, Valladares

SENATE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE: 5-1, 6/30/26
AYES: Arreguín, Caballero, Cortese, Pérez, Wiener
NOES: Seyarto

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: 5-2, 8/13/26
AYES: Cervantes, Cabaldon, Grayson, Richardson, Wahab
NOES: Seyarto, Dahle

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 57-19, 5/26/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Privacy for immigration support services providers

SOURCE: Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles

DIGEST: This bill, on October 1, 2027, expands the Safe at Home program to include immigration support services providers.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes an address confidentiality (or “Safe at Home”) program within the Secretary of State (SOS) in order to enable state and local agencies to both accept and respond to requests for public records without disclosing the changed name or address of a victim of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, human trafficking, child abduction, or elder or dependent adult abuse. Existing law permits any such adult victim, or parent or guardian acting on behalf of a minor or incapacitated person, to apply through a community-based program to have an address designated by SOS as their substitute mailing address. (Government [Gov.] Code § 6205 et seq.)
- 2) Allows designated health care services providers, employees, volunteers, and patients to apply to the address confidentiality program through a community-based victims’ assistance program, as specified. (Gov. Code §§ 6215 et seq.) The application is required to contain certain things, including a certified statement signed by a person authorized by the designated health care services facility stating that the facility or any of its providers, employees, volunteers, or patients is or was the target of threats or acts of violence or harassment within one year of the date of the application. (Gov. Code § 6215.2(a)(1)(B).)
- 3) Requires that the SOS certify a successful applicant as a program participant for four years following the date of filing, unless the certification is withdrawn or invalidated before that date, except as provided. Requires SOS to establish a renewal procedure. (Gov. Code §§ 6206 & 6215.2.)
- 4) Allows a participant to withdraw from the Safe at Home program. Provides SOS with the authority to cancel a program participant’s certification for specified reasons. (Gov. Code §§ 6206.5, 6206.7, 6215.3, & 6215.4.)
- 5) Prohibits a person, business, or association from soliciting, selling, or trading on the internet or social media the personal information or image of a designated health care services patient, provider, or assistant with the intent to do either of the following:
 - a) Incite a third person to cause imminent great bodily harm to the person identified in the posting or display, or to a coresident of that person, where the third person is likely to commit this harm.
 - b) Threaten the person identified in the posting or display, or a coresident of that person, in a manner that places the person identified or the coresident in objectively reasonable fear for their personal safety. (Gov. Code § 6218.)

- 6) Authorizes a person whose personal information as result of a violation of 5), above, may seek injunctive relief and be awarded damages, as specified. (Gov. Code § 6218.)
- 7) Prohibits a person, business, or association from publicly posting or publicly displaying, disclosing, or distributing, on websites or social media, the personal information or image of a designated health care services patient, provider, or assistant if that individual, or any individual, entity, or organization authorized to act on their behalf, has made a written demand of that person, business, or association to not disclose the personal information or image. (Gov. Code § 6218.)
- 8) Prohibits a person, business, or association from soliciting, selling, or trading on the internet or social media the personal information or image of a designated health care services patient, provider, or assistant with the intent to do either of the following:
 - a) incite a third person to cause imminent great bodily harm to the person identified in the posting or display, or to a coresident of that person, where the third person is likely to commit this harm; or
 - b) threaten the person identified in the posting or display, or a coresident of that person, in a manner that places the person identified or the coresident in objectively reasonable fear for their personal safety.
 - c) A reproductive health care services patient, provider, or assistant whose personal information or image is solicited, sold, or traded in violation of paragraph 9), above, or any individual, entity, or organization authorized to act on their behalf, may bring an action in any court of competent jurisdiction. In addition to any other legal rights and remedies, if a jury or court finds that a violation has occurred, it shall award damages to that individual in an amount up to a maximum of three times the actual damages, but in no case less than \$4,000. (Gov. Code § 6218.)
- 9) Prohibits a person from posting on the internet or social media, with the intent that another person imminently use that information to commit a crime involving violence or a threat of violence against a designated health care services patient, provider, or assistant, or other individuals residing at the same home address, the personal information or image of a designated health care services patient, provider, or assistant, or other individuals residing at the same home address. (Gov. Code § 6218.01.)

This bill:

- 1) Beginning on October 1, 2027, expands the Safe at Home program administered by SOS to a designated immigration support services provider, employee, or volunteer (collectively “providers”) who is fearful for their safety or the safety of their family because of their affiliation with a designated immigration support services facility.
- 2) Imports the provisions of the Safe at Home for these providers. The bill additionally specifies that SOS must cancel certification of a program participant who fails to disclose a change in employment status, or termination as a provider.

Background

Safe at Home is an address confidentiality program operated by the SOS. 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.

Given the reports of increased harassment and violence directed against providers of immigration support services, this bill expands the Safe at Home program to allow participation by those who provide, assist in providing, or receive immigration support services at a designated immigration support services facility. This bill is sponsored by the Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles and supported by various groups, including the California Teachers Association. No timely opposition was received. For a more thorough analysis, please see the Senate Privacy, Digital Technologies, and Consumer Protection Committee analysis of this bill.

Comments

According to the author:

AB 2624, the Safe at Work Act, strengthens protections for individuals working in immigrant service roles, including nonprofit staff, volunteers, and legal services providers, who may face risks such as doxxing, harassment, or threats due to the nature of their work. By extending the Safe at Home Program protections, the bill allows eligible participants to keep their personal information confidential in public records, helping reduce exposure to harm while supporting the continued delivery of legal, social, and humanitarian services. This proposal promotes safety, privacy, and continuity of essential services, reinforcing public confidence and ensuring that those serving communities across California can carry out their responsibilities effectively and securely.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: Yes

According to the Senate Appropriations Committee:

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.

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/13/26)

Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles (CHIRLA) (source)
American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO
California Immigrant Policy Center
California Initiative for Technology & Democracy, a Project of California
Common CAUSE
California Teachers Association
Immigrant Defenders Law Center
PowerCA Action
San Francisco Marin Medical Society
Unidosus

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/13/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: CHIRLA writes:

Currently, the law does not offer these individuals the same confidentiality protection that exists for other groups under the Safe at Home Program, leaving them at risk of danger. AB 2624 addresses this gap by allowing those serving immigrant populations to access the critical privacy safeguards, helping them work without fear for their safety. The Safe at Home Program has a long history of protecting people in vulnerable situations. Originally designed for survivors of domestic violence, it has been expanded over the years to include victims of stalking, reproductive health workers, and gender-affirming health care providers. AB 2624 extends these protections to the immigration services sector, ensuring that personal information remains confidential and that threats of harassment can be legally addressed under existing civil and criminal frameworks.

The expansion of these protections strengthens the broader support ecosystem, preserving the integrity and continuity of services offered by immigrant support organizations. By shielding staff and volunteers from exposure to online harassment and physical threats, AB 2624 allows organizations to continue providing legal guidance, advocacy, and community resources safely and effectively. Protecting those who serve immigrants ultimately helps immigrant communities live with dignity and access the support they need in California.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 57-19, 5/26/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Connolly, Elhawary, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lee, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Valencia, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NOES: Alanis, Chen, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Ellis, Flora, Gallagher, Jeff Gonzalez, Hadwick, Hoover, Johnson, Lackey, Macedo, Patterson, Sanchez, Ta, Tangipa, Wallis

NO VOTE RECORDED: Bains, Castillo, Muratsuchi, Celeste Rodriguez

Prepared by: Christian Kurpiewski / P., D.T., & C.P. / (916) 651-1548
8/14/26 14:12:50

**** END ****