
THIRD READING

Bill No: SB 1257
Author: Arreguín (D), et al.
Amended: 4/16/26
Vote: 21

SENATE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE: 4-1, 3/24/26

AYES: Arreguín, Caballero, Pérez, Wiener

NOES: Seyarto

NO VOTE RECORDED: Cortese

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 11-1, 4/14/26

AYES: Umberg, Allen, Ashby, Caballero, Durazo, McNerney, Reyes, Stern,
Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

NOES: Niello

NO VOTE RECORDED: Valladares

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: 5-2, 5/14/26

AYES: Cervantes, Cabaldon, Grayson, Richardson, Wahab

NOES: Seyarto, Dahle

SUBJECT: Federal immigration enforcement: report

SOURCE: Latino Coalition for a Healthy California

DIGEST: This bill requires the Attorney General (AG) to publish a report annually summarizing all immigration enforcement incidents and activities conducted by any persons at designated safe locations and to permit the AG to engage in enforcement actions to enforce state law, including the provisions of this bill, at these designated safe locations.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Defines “immigration enforcement” to mean any and all efforts to investigate, enforce, or assist in the investigation or enforcement of any federal civil immigration law, and also includes any and all efforts to investigate, enforce, or assist in the investigation or enforcement of any federal criminal immigration law that penalizes a person’s presence in, entry or reentry to, or employment in, the United States. (Health and Safety (Health & Saf.) Code, § 24253; Education (Ed.) Code, § 234.7, subd. (1)(i); Ed. Code, § 66093.3, subdivision (subd.) (c)(1).)
- 2) Prohibits a health care provider entity and its personnel, unless required by state and federal law, from allowing any person access to the nonpublic areas of the facility for immigration enforcement purposes, unless that person has a valid judicial warrant or court order. (Health & Saf. Code, § 24251, subd. (b).)
- 3) Provides an exception to the above prohibitions for agents accompanying people in lawful custody to access health care services and for their transportation and arrangement to health care provider entities. (Health & Saf. Code, § 24254.)
- 4) Requires health care provider entity personnel to immediately notify their management of any request for access to a health care provider site or patient for immigration enforcement. (Health & Saf. Code, § 24250, subd. (b)(1).)
- 5) Applies the above provisions to all health care provider entities, as specified, that receive public funding. (Health & Saf. Code, § 24255.)
- 6) Prohibits, except as required by state or federal law, or as required to administer a state or federally supported educational program, school officials and employees of a local educational agency from allowing an officer or employee of an agency conducting immigration enforcement to enter a nonpublic area of a schoolsite for any purpose without being presented with a valid judicial warrant or judicial subpoena, or a court order. (Ed. Code, § 234.7, subd. (a)(2).)
- 7) Prohibits a local educational agency and its personnel, to the extent practicable, from disclosing or providing in writing, verbally, or in any other manner, the education records of or any information about a pupil or a pupil’s family and household without the pupil’s parents’ or guardians’ written consent, to an officer or employee of an agency conducting immigration enforcement absent a valid judicial warrant or judicial subpoena, or court order directing the local educational agency or its personnel to do so. (Ed. Code, § 234.7, subd. (a)(2).)

- 8) Requires the superintendent of a school district, the superintendent of a county office of education, and the principal of a charter school, as applicable, to report to the respective governing board or body of the local educational agency in a timely manner any requests for information or access to a schoolsite by an officer or employee of a law enforcement agency for the purpose of enforcing the immigration laws. (Ed. Code, § 234.7, subd. (c).)
- 9) Clarifies that these provisions do not prohibit or restrict any governmental entity or official from sending to, or receiving from, federal immigration authorities, information regarding the citizenship or immigration status of an individual, if required by certain federal laws. (Ed. Code, § 234.7, subd. (i).)
- 10) Sets forth actions the Trustees of the California State University, the governing board of each community college district in the state, and independent institutions of higher education that are qualifying institutions, as specified, must perform in relation to immigration enforcement on their campuses. (Ed. Code, § 66093.3, subd. (a).)
- 11) Prohibits these institutions of higher education from disclosing personal information about students, faculty, and staff except: (A) with the consent of the person identified, or if the person is under 18 years of age, with the consent of the parent or guardian of the person identified; (B) as may legally be disclosed under state and federal privacy laws; (C) for the programmatic purpose for which the information was obtained; (D) as part of a directory that does not include residence addresses or individual persons' course schedules and that the person has not elected to opt out of; or (E) in response to a judicial warrant, court order, or subpoena. (Ed. Code, § 66093.3, subd. (a)(1).)
- 12) Requires that these institutions comply with a request from an immigration officer for access to nonpublic areas of the campus only upon presentation of a judicial warrant, but specifies that this requirement does not apply to an immigration officer's request for access or information related to the operation of international student, staff, or faculty programs, employment verification efforts, or other nonenforcement activities. (Ed. Code, § 66093.3, subd. (a)(4).)
- 13) Requires these institutions to advise all students, faculty, and staff to notify the office of the chancellor or president, or their designee, as soon as possible, if they are advised that an immigration officer is expected to enter, will enter, or has entered the campus to execute a federal immigration order. (Ed. Code, § 66093.3, subd. (a)(2).)

This bill:

- 1) Requires that on or before October 30, 2027, and annually thereafter, the AG shall submit to the Legislature, and post on its internet website, a report that includes all of the following:
 - a) A summary of all immigration enforcement incidents and activities conducted by any person at designated safe locations that have been reported by the designated safe location or a person who witnessed the activity to the AG, including, but not limited to, reports submitted onsite or through the AG's federal agent misconduct online portal.
 - b) Information of each immigration enforcement incident and activity, including, but not limited to, the date of occurrence, the county of occurrence, the type of facility or location impacted, the government agency involved, and follow up or resolution status.
 - c) The number of immigration enforcement incidents and activities that resulted in legal action regarding the incident or activity's legality and the county or court involved in the legal action. (Gov. Code, § 7284.9, subd. (a).)
- 2) Defines "designated safe locations" to include educational institutions, health care provider entities, as specified, shelters, polling places, courthouses, public transportation property, and state and local government property.
- 3) Defines "immigration enforcement" to mean an effort to investigate, enforce, or assist in the investigation or enforcement of a federal civil immigration law or a federal criminal immigration law that penalizes a person's presence in, entry or reentry to, or employment in the United States.
- 4) Clarifies that for the purposes of this section, a "legal action" does not include "a legal action or administrative proceeding against an individual for the enforcement of federal immigration law or a prosecution of an individual under federal criminal law."
- 5) Authorizes the AG to request representatives of the designated safe locations to furnish any reported immigration enforcement incidents and activities as part of compiling its annual report.
- 6) Authorizes the AG to issue civil penalties or conduct other enforcement activity to ensure compliance with this section.

- 7) Provides that as part of compiling this report, the AG may consider whether the designated safe location is in compliance with other state law, and may take enforcement action, as needed.
- 8) Prohibits the report from including personally identifiable information regarding an individual stopped, detained, or arrested by an individual conducting an immigration enforcement incident or activity.

Background

Restrictive and harsh immigration policies have been shown to produce a chilling effect throughout immigrant communities, wherein immigrant families avoid interacting with public services and institutions for fear of being exposed to deportation threats.

In 2017, the legislature passed the California Values Act, which required the AG to publish model policies limiting assistance with immigration enforcement to the fullest extent possible consistent with federal and state law at public schools, public libraries, health facilities operated by the state or a political subdivision of the state, courthouses, Division of Labor Standards Enforcement facilities, the Agricultural Labor Relations Board, the Division of Workers' Compensation, and shelters, and ensuring that they remain safe and accessible to all California residents, regardless of immigration status. These model policies are available on the Department of Justice website.

In 2025, in response to President Trump's immigration policies, California legislators passed three pieces of legislation to prohibit employees at certain institutions—such as health care providers that receive state funding, state public schools, state community colleges, certain state universities, and other state facilities—from allowing immigration enforcement personnel into nonpublic areas without a lawfully issued judicial warrant or court order. These bills all defined “immigration enforcement” to include any and all efforts to investigate, enforce, or assist in the investigation or enforcement of any federal civil immigration law, and also includes any and all efforts to investigate, enforce, or assist in the investigation or enforcement of any federal criminal immigration law that penalizes a person's presence in, entry or reentry to, or employment in, the United States.

SB 81 (Arreguín, Ch. 123, Stats. 2025) prohibited health care providers receiving state funding from allowing immigration enforcement agents into nonpublic areas. The bill also required providers to develop and publicly post policies for

employees to follow in the circumstance a federal immigration enforcement agent requests access to nonpublic facilities or information. Such requests by an immigration enforcement agent for access or information were required to be immediately forwarded to the health care provider's management, administration, or legal counsel. The bill clarified that it did not prohibit immigration enforcement agents from entering health care facilities to accompany people in their lawful custody receiving care, or from seeking care for themselves.

AB 49 (Muratsuchi, Chapter 122, Statutes of 2025) prohibited employees of any local educational agency from allowing any employee of an agency conducting immigration enforcement to enter a nonpublic area of a schoolsite without a valid judicial warrant, judicial subpoena, or court order. The bill further required school administrators to report to their respective governing boards any requests for information or access to a schoolsite by a law enforcement employee for the purpose of enforcing immigration laws.

SB 98 (Cervantes, Chapter 125, Statutes of 2025) set forth policies that the Trustees of the California State University, the governing board of each community college district in the state, and independent institutions of higher education that qualify for the Cal Grant Program, must follow related to immigration enforcement. In particular, the bill prohibited these institutions from complying with a request by an immigration enforcement officer to access nonpublic areas, unless they presented a judicial warrant. Additionally, the bill prohibited these institutions from disclosing personal information about students, faculty, and staff, unless certain exceptions are met, such as in response to a judicial warrant, court order, or subpoena.

Comments

This bill requires the AG to publish a report annually summarizing all immigration enforcement incidents and activities conducted by any persons at designated safe locations and to permit the AG to enforce state law, such as those listed above, at these designated locations. Specifically, the bill provides that by October 30, 2027, and annually thereafter, the AG is required to submit to the Legislature, and post on its internet website, a report that includes all of the following:

- a) A summary of all immigration enforcement incidents and activities conducted by any person at designated safe locations that have been reported by the designated safe location or a person who witnessed the activity to the AG, including, but not limited to, reports submitted onsite or through the AG's federal agent misconduct online portal.

- b) Information of each immigration enforcement incident and activity, including, but not limited to, the date of occurrence, the county of occurrence, the type of facility or location impacted, the government agency involved, and follow-up or resolution status.
- c) The number of immigration enforcement incidents and activities that resulted in legal action regarding the incident or activity's legality and the county or court involved in the legal action. (Gov. Code, § 7284.9, subd. (a).)

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

According to the Senate Appropriations Committee:

Unknown, likely significant to major fiscal impact annually on the Department of Justice (DOJ)... For purposes of comparison, DOJ budgets \$1 million annually to conduct reviews of local, county or private locked detention facilities in which noncitizens are housed for immigration purposes in the state. Unknown, reimbursable state mandated costs, potentially exceeding \$50,000 annually for local entities to participate in immigration enforcement efforts to investigate, enforce, or assist in the investigation of a federal civil immigration law or a federal criminal immigration law that penalizes a person's presence, as specified.

SUPPORT: (Verified 5/14/26)

Latino Coalition for a Healthy California (Source)

ACLU California Action

Alliance for a Better Community

Asian Americans for Community Involvement

Asian Resources, INC.

Asociacion De Migrantes Guatemaltecos Los Angeles

Buen Vecino

California Community Foundation

California Consortium for Urban Indian Health

California Coverage Health Initiatives

California Immigrant Policy Center

California Pan-Ethnic Health Network

California Physicians Alliance

California Public Defenders Association
California State Council of Service Employees International Union
California Teachers Association
Campaign for College Opportunity
Celestria Health
Central American Resource Center of California
Centro Binacional Para El Desarrollo Indígena Oaxaqueno
City of Berkeley
City of Soledad
Coalition of Orange County Community Health Centers
Courage California
Empowering Marginalized Asian Communities
Farm2People
Friends Committee on Legislation of California
Health4Kern
Healthy Contra Costa
Immigrant Defenders Law Center
JWCH Institute
Multicultural Institute
Orale: Organizing Rooted in Abolition Liberation and Empowerment
Southeast Asia Resource Action Center
The Black Alliance for Just Immigration
The Children's Partnership
TODEC Legal Center
Transitions Clinic Network
UnidosUS
Vision Y Compromiso
Western Center on Law & Poverty

OPPOSITION: (Verified 5/14/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: The Western Center on Law and Poverty writes:

Although the state is collecting information on misconduct by a federal agency for the California AG, the data needs to be made public, and violators need to be held accountable. The state currently lacks accountability and transparency regarding the number and

locations of violations. This undermines public trust and will lead to a lack of confidence in the community to report future violations.

Prepared by: Marshal Lawler / PUB. S. /
5/16/26 10:54:39

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