



California “Sanctuary State” Bill (SB 54) Talking Points

California Senate Bill 54 effectively makes California a “sanctuary state” by legalizing and standardizing statewide non-cooperation policies between California law enforcement agencies and federal immigration authorities.

BILL SUMMARY

- Prohibits state and local law enforcement from holding illegal aliens on the basis of federal immigration detainers, or transferring them into federal custody, unless they’ve been convicted in the last 15 years for one of a list of 31 crimes, or are a registered sex offender: if not, they may only be held with a warrant from a federal judge
- Prohibits state and local law enforcement from asking anyone about their immigration status
- Prohibits state and local law enforcement from sharing any information with federal immigration authorities that is not available to the general public
- Prohibits state and local law enforcement from using any of their money or personnel to “investigate, interrogate, detain, detect, or arrest persons for immigration enforcement purposes”
- Prohibits state and local law enforcement from allowing federal immigration authorities to use space in their facilities
- Limits how and when state and local law enforcement can contract with federal immigration authorities
- Grants discretion to state and local law enforcement to cooperate even less with federal immigration authorities than the bill authorizes them to, but not more
- Is near-universally recognized and described by both its supporters and opponents as a sanctuary state bill: protects illegal aliens at the expense of citizens, will increase illegal immigration to California, and sends the message that illegal aliens are welcome everywhere in the state

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

- 12/5/16 introduced by Senate President Pro Tem Kevin de Leon
- 4/3/17 passed by the Senate
- 9/15/17 passed by the Assembly
- 10/5/17 signed by Governor Brown

To learn more about why the sanctuary policies SB 54 adopts are harmful and dangerous visit
<https://fairus.org/issue/illegal-immigration/sanctuary-policy-bad-public-policy>