

Testimony in SUPPORT of SB 828

SB 828 - Immigration Enforcement - Sensitive Locations - Guidelines and Policies (Protecting Sensitive Locations Act)

Senate Judiciary Proceedings Committee

March 4, 2025

Dear Honorable Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and Members of the Committee,

Roslyn Zinner is pleased to offer **a favorable testimony in strong support of SB 828- Immigration Enforcement - Sensitive Locations - Guidelines and Policies (Protecting Sensitive Locations Act).**

6 years ago my husband and I sponsored a Honduran family who were at the border without a sponsor. They lived with us for 3 years, then moved to their own place. The mom has been working for the school system as a teacher's aid and her 11 year old son is excelling in school. They are looking to buy a home. Other family members have since come to live here. They are vulnerable. This family is not a group of nameless immigrants, they are our family. And they are afraid, afraid to go to the ER when needed, afraid to report a crime they witnessed, worried about whether their children will be snatched out of school by ICE to never come home.

For over a decade, federal policy limited Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) activities in sensitive locations—such as hospitals, schools, courthouses, and places of worship—to prevent intimidation and ensure access to essential services. However, as of January 20, 2025, the revocation of these protections has left immigrant communities vulnerable to enforcement actions in spaces where they should feel safe.

This shift has already created an environment of fear and uncertainty, discouraging individuals from seeking medical care, pursuing education, accessing legal resources, or engaging with law enforcement. As a result, our communities, public health, and overall safety are at risk.

Everyone should access essential services without fear of detention or separation. Public safety improves when immigrants feel safe reporting crimes and seeking help. Clear enforcement boundaries build trust, strengthening communities and institutions. For these reasons, I/ORGANIZATION **urges the committee to provide a favorable report on SB 828.**