



SB828

**February 28, 2025**

**Testimony in SUPPORT of SB 828**

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

Senate Judiciary Proceedings Committee

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

The Latino Racial Justice Circle is pleased to offer **a favorable testimony in strong support of SB 828- Immigration Enforcement - Sensitive Locations - Guidelines and Policies (Protecting Sensitive Locations Act).**

Founded in October 2015, The Latino Racial Justice Circle is a community-based nonprofit organization that does not deliver direct services to individuals. Instead, we raise funds to assist families with viable pathways for immigration relief, pay for legal representation, and give small scholarships to college students who are ineligible for federal financial aid. Additionally, we facilitate conversations on immigration and civic engagement.

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, the Latino Racial Justice Circle **urges the committee to provide a favorable report on SB 828.**

Susana Barrios, President  
Latino Racial Justice Circle