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Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 1006

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

Senate Judiciary Proceedings Committee

February 27, 2025

Dear Honorable Chair Clippinger, Vice Chair Bartlett, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Dominique Lee and today I am reaching out to offer **a favorable testimony in strong support of HB 1006 - Immigration Enforcement - Sensitive Locations - Guidelines and Policies (Protecting Sensitive Locations Act).**

I am a first generation college student who grew up in a low-income blue collar family. My parents are immigrants to this country and had it not been for my public education, I would not be able to write to you today and advocate for the things I believe in. The beauty of public education here in America is that every child has a right to it. In our public schools children are able to learn and experience things they never would have and for children like myself, we get to bring our education and learning experiences back to support our families and community. When a classroom is no longer a safe space for students to come into, we don't just take away an education from a single child but we take it away from the entire community that supports that child, furthering harm rather than helping.

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 **urge the committee to provide a favorable report on SB 1006.**