



**Alameda County Board of Supervisors
Personnel, Administration, and Legislation (PAL) Committee
LEGISLATIVE POSITION REQUEST FORM**

**Submission deadline is noon on the Monday two weeks prior to the PAL meeting.
See FAQ for additional instructions.**

Title (Bill/Reg. No., Bill/Reg. Title, Author):		SB 12 – California Immigrant and Refugee Affairs Agency, Senator Lena A. Gonzalez	
Version (Date amended):		1/29/2025	
Position Requested:		Support	
Current Status of Bill/Regulation (Has the bill been referred to committee, or set for hearing? If so, when and what committee? Next hearing?) (Where relevant include comment period dates/deadlines):		Click or tap here to enter text. Referred to Coms. On G.O. and JUD	
Alignment with Vision 2026:	Shared Visions	10X Goals	Operating Principles
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Thriving & Resilient Population <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Safe & Livable Communities <input type="checkbox"/> Healthy Environment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prosperous & Vibrant Economy	<input type="checkbox"/> Employment for All <input type="checkbox"/> Eliminate Homelessness <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eliminate Poverty and Hunger <input type="checkbox"/> Crime Free County <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Healthcare for All <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accessible Infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/> Collaboration <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Equity <input type="checkbox"/> Fiscal Stewardship <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Innovation <input type="checkbox"/> Sustainability <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Access
Alignment with Legislative Platform (i.e. "issue"/plank or N/A if not in legislative platform)		Immigration	
Summary (Summary of item, use Legislative Counsel's Digest, Bill Analysis, or Bill Summary):			
Senate Bill (SB) 12 will establish a central coordinating agency in state government to lead California's efforts in welcoming and fostering the integration and inclusion of immigrants and refugees in California.			
Background of Bill:			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New bill <input type="checkbox"/> Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Gut and Amend <input type="checkbox"/> Similar to other current bills we have positions on		<input type="checkbox"/> Previously Introduced <input type="checkbox"/> Clean-Up Bill <input type="checkbox"/> Urgency Clause	
Seeking Amendments?		Choose an item.	
Previous Legislation:		Click or tap here to enter text.	
If YES, attach amendments.			
Do all other impacted agencies/departments concur?		N/A	
If YES, list each department and contact person. If NO, see FAQ.			
Click or tap here to enter text.			
Potential State/Federal Fiscal Impacts (include \$ estimate):		Click or tap here to enter text.	
Potential Net County Cost Impacts (include \$ estimate):		Click or tap here to enter text.	
Fiscal Impact:			
<input type="checkbox"/> Adds revenue <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cost savings <input type="checkbox"/> New/increased fees to offset costs		<input type="checkbox"/> Unfunded mandate <input type="checkbox"/> Additional costs <input type="checkbox"/> Reduces or reduces fees	



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<input type="checkbox"/> Includes appropriation <input type="checkbox"/> Redirects resources <input type="checkbox"/> Changes fines/penalties	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor impact – program absorption <input type="checkbox"/> None of the above
Potential Impacts to County Residents (Include specific data):	
<p>Alameda County is home to over 540,000 immigrants or one in three people out of the total population of 1.6 million. Almost half of Alameda’s residents—46.4 percent or over 773,000—speak any number of Alameda’s 120 languages other than English at home,6 and 54 percent of Alameda’s children, or almost 180,000, have one or more immigrant parents. Thirty-two percent of Alameda County’s immigrant residents are 25 to 44 years old, 29 percent are under 24 years old, and 39.4 percent are older than 44 years old. Most immigrants residing in Alameda County have immigrated from Asia (65.6%), followed by Latin America (22.4%), Europe (5.9%), Africa (3.5%), and Oceania (1.5%). This background all contributed to Alameda County as the fourth most ethnically and culturally diverse county in the United States.</p>	
Potential Impacts to County Programs, Services, Operations or Departments (Be specific):	
Reporting Requirements:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Requires one-time report/study <input type="checkbox"/> Requires annual report <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No reporting requirement	<input type="checkbox"/> Requires new reporting form(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Requires amended reporting form(s)
List Known Supporters:	CHIRLA
List Known Opposition:	Click or tap here to enter text.
Requestor (who is asking for the County to take a position? e.g., agency/dept., association, organization)	
Supervisor Nikki Fortunato Bas	
Approved by Department Head (Name/Date):	Click or tap here to enter text.
Submitter (Name, Title, Dept.):	Cinthya Muñoz Ramos, Chief of Legislative Affairs and Community Safety
Submission Date:	02/05/2025
CAO Analyst:	Hang Tran
Additional Comments:	Click or tap here to enter text.

For Internal CAO Use Only:					
Date Received:	02/05/25	Date to Analyst:	02/05/25	Date from Analyst:	02/05/25
Target PAL date:	02/10/25	CAO recommendation:	Approve		



FROM THE OFFICE OF SENATE MAJORITY LEADER

LENA A. GONZALEZ

SENATOR 33RD SENATE DISTRICT

SB 12 (Gonzalez) California Immigrant and Refugee Affairs Agency

SUMMARY

Senate Bill (SB) 12 will establish a central coordinating agency in state government to lead California's efforts in welcoming and fostering the integration and inclusion of immigrants and refugees in California.

EXISTING LAW

SB 84 (Budget, Chapter 25, Statutes of 2015) established the position of Statewide Director of Immigrant Integration, with the mission of serving as the lead for the planning and coordination of immigrant services and policies in California.

SB 79 (Budget, Chapter 20, Statutes of 2015) established the One California program, administered by the Department of Social Services. The One California program, subject to funding availability, provides grants to nonprofit organizations to provide immigration-related legal services, including the Youth Legal Services program and Immigrant Services Fund program, which provides aide to Californians applying for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival (DACA).

BACKGROUND/PROBLEM

California is home to 10.4 million immigrants, who account for 23% of the entire immigrant population in the United States.¹ This diverse population has been pivotal in shaping the Golden State into what it is today - with a

¹ <https://www.migrationpolicy.org/programs/data-hub/charts/us-immigrant-population-state-and-county>

thriving economy that rivals other countries, and that is enriched by immigrant innovators and entrepreneurs.

Immigrant-led households in California paid \$80.8 billion in federal taxes and \$38.9 billion in state and local taxes in 2018. Undocumented Californians paid an estimated \$4.5 billion in federal taxes and \$2.5 billion in state and local taxes. Approximately 935,000 immigrant business owners in California accounted for 38% of all self-employed residents in 2018 and generated \$24.5 billion in revenue.²

Despite the outsized impact immigrants have on our economy and our workforce, California currently has limited statewide services and support systems for immigrants and refugees. Existing services, like the One California program, provide financial support directly to nonprofit community groups to deliver legal services to immigrant communities. Additionally, there are only two staff positions in the Governor's Office dedicated to immigrant policy issues for a state of 39 million people.

Outside of these small, but critical commitments, California has no dedicated entity or office to serve the nearly one-quarter of our population that are immigrants or refugees. States like New York, Colorado, Massachusetts, Nevada, and even the cities of Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Santa Clara all have offices dedicated to developing programs, policies, and services for immigrants. California, however, the most populous state in the country, with an immigrant population

² <https://www.americanimmigrationcouncil.org/research/immigrants-in-california>.

dwarfing that of many other nations – has no dedicated office for immigrant issues and advocacy.

The incoming Trump Administration has promised to implement hostile actions against immigrant communities, including mass deportations and the unprecedented act of deploying the US Military to remove undocumented Americans. California must take an active and proactive role in defending our neighbors, family members, and community members from these malicious and heartless deportation threats.

Immigrants seeking new opportunities, and refugees fleeing violence or repression in their home countries, have become a central part of the diverse fabric of our state, and we owe it to these Californians to prepare an adequate response to any federal actions that seek to tear apart families and communities.

SOLUTION

SB 12 will address the lack of statewide leadership and action supporting California’s immigrant and refugee communities by creating the California Immigrant and Refugee Affairs Agency.

SB 12 will task this agency and its leadership with:

- ✓ Establishing a permanent structure within the state to serve immigrants and refugees;
- ✓ Creating a clearinghouse and referral system for services available to immigrants;
- ✓ Coordinating integration efforts among state agencies;
- ✓ Engaging stakeholders inside and outside of government on immigrant issues;
- ✓ Developing grant programs that directly support capacity building;
- ✓ Making policy recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature; and,
- ✓ Coordinating with local immigrant affairs offices to streamline services and maximize impact.

SUPPORT

Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights (CHIRLA)

CONTACT

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