

To: NV Senate Judiciary Committee
Subject: AB217 (amendment 159)
Recommendation: Let ICE agents do their job OPPOSE

Dear Senate Judiciary Committee:

AB217 (including amendment #159) prohibits ICE agents from entering the premises of any NV public school for the purpose of identifying illegal immigrants, without a warrant or court order. Moreover, any employee of NV public school giving ICE agents information could be disciplined after the first offence, and be charged with a misdemeanor after more so-called offences.

My conclusion is that if ICE agents come to a school to make routine inquiries, an employee may not speak to them on pain of discipline. It has been confirmed that NO SUCH INCIDENTS have occurred in Nevada.

Why have a law for a problem that may not even exist? This is state government trying to solve a problem before it occurs. Moreover, federal law authorizes federal law officers to perform informal investigations on public properties to safeguard communities.

Supporters of this bill will say this will protect children from fear and bad treatment by these officials. However, to date such concerns are overblown in that no instance of this has occurred in our state. And note, federal officials have shown tremendous restraint for many years with few or no reprisals against millions of immigrants entering our Nation unlawfully. It is the criminal elements of illegal immigrants who are violent, not our law-abiding, law enforcers. Balance is needed. OPPOSE this bill.

Thank you,

Cynthia Perine

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