



## MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA CITY OF LONG BEACH

June 23, 2017

The Honorable Benjamin Allen, Chairman  
California State Senate Education Committee  
State Capitol, Room 2083  
Sacramento, California 95814

**RE: AB 699 (O'Donnell) – Support Relating to Protection of Pupils Based on Immigration Status**

Dear Chairman Allen:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I write in support of Assembly Bill 699 (O'Donnell). On February 7, 2017, the Long Beach City Council voted to support State legislation that would ensure local resources are not used to facilitate deportations or collect information about an individual's religious beliefs. Support for AB 699 is consistent with the City Council's position on federal immigration enforcement in California.

AB 699 proposes protection of students and their families based on immigration status by requiring schools to include "immigration status" as a protected characteristic in educational equity policies. AB 699 also prohibits schools from collecting information based on immigration status and requires officers of the United States Immigration Customs and Enforcement (ICE) to obtain permission from a school principal and a judicial warrant before entering a school. Further, this legislation addresses bullying by requiring the California Department of Education to monitor local educational agencies' compliance with anti-bullying procedures and policies based on immigration status.

Within the City of Long Beach, one in four community members self-identify as foreign-born. Long Beach is invested in protecting our youth by ensuring that they remain safe in our local schools and can focus on education.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach supports AB 699.

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia  
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon, State Assembly  
The Honorable Steven Bradford, State Senate, 35<sup>th</sup> District  
The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33<sup>rd</sup> District  
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34<sup>th</sup> District  
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64<sup>th</sup> District  
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70<sup>th</sup> District  
California State Senate Education Committee