



MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

March 9, 2017

The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 2196
Sacramento, California 95814

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

Dear Assemblymember O'Donnell:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I write in support of Assembly Bill 699. On February 7, 2017, the Long Beach City Council voted to support State legislation that would ensure that local resources are not used to facilitate deportations or collect information about an individual's religious beliefs. These actions are in response to recent Executive Orders signed by President Trump addressing immigration policies. 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 that schools 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 to obtain permission from a school principal before entering a school. AB 699 also 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. The City 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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Robert Garcia", written in a cursive style.

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc:

The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon, State Assembly
The Honorable Steven Bradford, State Senate, 35th District
The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District