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## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,	) Case No. 2:18-cv-00490-JAM-KJN
Plaintiff, v.  STATE OF CALIFORNIA, et al.,  Defendants.	BRIEF OF AMICI CURIAE THE CITY OF NEW YORK, 20 LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, AND THE UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF MAYORS IN OPPOSITION TO PLAINTIFF'S PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION MOTION AND IN SUPPORT OF DEFENDANTS' MOTION TO DISMISS
	Hearing Date: June 20, 2018 Hearing Time: 10:00 a.m. Location: Courtroom 6  Judge: Hon. John A. Mendez

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#### STATEMENT OF INTEREST AND SUMMARY OF ARGUMENT

The undersigned cities and counties outside California—representing nearly 20 million residents from across the country—and the United States Conference of Mayors submit this amici curiae brief to demonstrate and defend the legitimate and powerful interest of state and local governments in maintaining policies that, like the challenged provisions of the California Values Act, limit the information we share with the federal government. While amici support the entirety of California's request for dismissal of the complaint, this brief focuses particularly on the challenged information-sharing policies because, as local governments, we have decades of experience with similar policies safeguarding sensitive information. Our experience refutes the Department of Justice's repeated suggestion, in arguing for federal preemption, that such policies are nothing more than an attempt to obstruct federal immigration enforcement. Quite the contrary: amici have found that creating appropriate firewalls between local public service providers and federal immigration enforcement is critical to building the trust with our residents that is required to effectively protect the safety and health of all.

Local governments neither set immigration policy, nor determine who enters this country. Our core jobs are to effectively police our neighborhoods—whoever lives in them—to teach our children—whoever their parents might be—and to provide all the other essential public services that keep our cities and counties running. And we know that residents' willingness to report crime and assist the police, complain about unsafe conditions, send their children to school, seek medical treatment, or take advantage of other public services depends on our ability to protect the confidentiality of their personal information.

The portions of the California Values Act that the DOJ seeks to enjoin create a shield separating the activities of the state government from federal immigration enforcement. The DOJ challenges, for instance, the statute's prohibition against sharing an individual's personal information, including home and work addresses, for immigration enforcement purposes unless that information is publicly available. Cal. Gov't Code § 7284.6(a)(1)(D); Compl. at ¶ 65. This is quintessentially a provision designed to build trust so that people can share their personal

information with the government without fear that it will lead to their deportation or the deportation of a family member. And the federal government focuses particular attention on California's refusal to share the release date of certain detainees, which likewise sends a clear and unmistakable signal to residents that the state government is not a mere instrument of the federal government's deportation apparatus; such information-sharing will happen only in accordance with California's own law enforcement needs. *See* Cal. Gov't Code § 7284.6(a)(1)(C); DOJ Mem. in Supp. of Prelim. Inj. at 23–29.

Federal attempts, such as those here, to conscript local officers into providing sensitive information about local residents unconstitutionally "impress" those officers "into [federal] service" and impermissibly confuse lines of accountability, resulting in local governments "taking the blame" in immigrant communities for federal choices. *Printz v. United States*, 521 U.S. 898, 922, 930 (1997); *see also* Cal. Mem. in Opp'n to Prelim. Inj. at 14–17. This is particularly so where the federal statute invoked by DOJ—8 U.S.C. § 1373(a)—cannot be seen as "anything other than a direct command" to state and local governments, invalid under the Tenth Amendment. *Murphy v. NCAA*, Nos. 16-476, 16-477, 2018 U.S. LEXIS 2805, at \*39 (May 14, 2018) (also finding the distinction "empty" between a law requiring an affirmative obligation and a law imposing a prohibition on state governments).

The outcome would not change even if federal preemption, rather than anticommandeering doctrine, supplied the proper framework for analysis. Contrary to the federal
government's claims, policies that clearly separate local public services from the federal
immigration enforcement system—like the challenged provisions of the California Values
Act—are neither "intended to uniquely impede the enforcement of the immigration laws" nor
"specifically designed to obstruct federal immigration enforcement." DOJ Mem. in Supp. of
Prelim. Inj. at 31, 32. They are instead essential to fulfilling local governments' fundamental
role in serving their residents, as experience confirms that absent the trust engendered by
policies protecting personal information, people simply will not seek assistance or cooperate
with local governments in the provision of essential services. The basic purpose—and

demonstrated effect—of such policies is thus to improve public health, safety and welfare, all police powers in "fields of traditional state regulation" that are not lightly to be preempted. *Riegel v. Medtronic, Inc.*, 529 U.S. 598, 618 (2008).

Ensuring that all of our residents, including immigrants, can and do access government services is not a minor concern, but rather indispensable to the vitality, prosperity, and safety of our communities, because immigrants play central roles in cities large and small. For example, nearly six out of every ten New York City residents are immigrants or the children of immigrants, and immigrants contributed \$195 billion to the City's gross domestic product in 2017. In Chicago, immigrants pay \$1.6 billion in state and local taxes (and more in federal taxes); additionally, while immigrants make up 20.7 percent of Chicago's population, they account for 36.4 percent of its entrepreneurs, a remarkable measure of economic dynamism. In Tukwila, Washington, 41 percent of the city's residents were born outside the country and half speak a language other than English at home. Meanwhile, in Philadelphia, immigrants make up 13 percent of the City's population but were responsible for 96 percent of the "Main Street" neighborhood business growth between 2000 and 2013 and 75 percent of the city's workforce growth since 2000.

Our concern is not—and cannot be—limited to those who have legal status in this country. In New York City alone, roughly 560,000 residents are undocumented and approximately one million residents live in a household where at least one member is undocumented.<sup>4</sup> And in broader ways, the well-being of all our residents is connected. No one benefits when large portions of the population are reluctant to obtain vaccinations against

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> N.Y.C. Dep't of City Planning, *The Newest New Yorkers*, 2013, available at http://on.nyc.gov/2drcFH6; Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs, *State of Our Immigrant City*, March 2018, at 6, available at https://on.nyc.gov/2Iu3Lw6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Memorandum from City of Chicago to City of New York (May 16, 2018).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Americas Society/Council of the Americas & The Fiscal Policy Institute, *Bringing Vitality to Main Street: How Immigrant Small Businesses Help Local Economies Grow*, available at: http://www.as-coa.org/sites/default/files/ImmigrantBusinessReport.pdf.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs, *supra* note 1 at 6.

preventable disease or are afraid to speak to the police because they worry that sharing their personal information might lead to deportation for themselves or their family members.

Thus, local governments have adopted policies—some going back decades—motivated by the same concerns and experiences that underlie the California Values Act's information-sharing provisions.<sup>5</sup> These policies are diverse in approach and scope, as befitting the diverse needs of our jurisdictions, but all are based on the need to maintain trust with communities. Many of these policies, such as New York City's, protect not only the confidentiality of residents' immigration status, but also other sensitive information such as sexual orientation, status as a victim of domestic violence or sexual assault, or receipt of public assistance.<sup>6</sup> Others are specifically focused on information sharing by law enforcement. The valid and legitimate concerns animating these policies are as simple as they are powerful. Our experience as local governments makes plain that we must build trust with residents if we are to govern effectively. Contrary to the DOJ's unsupported claims that states and local governments lack any "legitimate interest" in these policies, DOJ Mem. in Supp. of Prelim. Inj. at 32, the policies serve an important and lawful purpose. Indeed, they are critical to effective local governance.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See, e.g., N.Y.C. Mayoral Exec. Order 41 (2003); N.Y.C. Admin. Code § 9-131(h)(1); Chicago Mun. Code § 2-173; Cook Cty. Bd. of Comm'rs Res. 07- R-240; Cook Cty. Ill., Mun. Code § 46-37(b); Denver Rev. Mun. Code § 28-250 to 28-253; Denver Exec. Order 142 (2017); Madison Res. 17-00125; Minneapolis Code of Ordinances Ch. 19; Or. Rev. Stat. § 181A.820; 2017 Or. Laws Ch. 724 (HB 3464); Phila. Exec. Order 8-09; Phila. Exec. Order 5-16; Rochester Res. No. 2017-5; Tukwila Res. 1900.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See e.g. N.Y.C. Charter § 8(g); N.Y.C. Mayoral Exec. Order 41 (2003).

#### **ARGUMENT**

POLICIES THAT PROTECT SENSITIVE INFORMATION ABOUT IMMIGRANT POPULATIONS ARE ESSENTIAL TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS' ABILITY TO EFFECTIVELY DELIVER SERVICES

A. The fear of immigration enforcement can discourage residents from engaging with essential local government services, including police, schools, and medical care.

In immigrant communities, fear of government officials can pose a considerable obstacle to basic government functions. According to one recent study, 40 percent of Latino parents surveyed told their children to avoid medical care, police, and other public services, and almost half told their children to stay away from authorities generally. These fears are not limited to those without legal status, because undocumented immigrants are the parents, siblings, and friends of citizens and legal residents. Even parents who were citizens or had permanent resident status were found to have issued similar warnings to their children, at only slightly lower rates. Notably, these instructions stemmed directly from immigration-related fears. Local governments cannot effectively prevent crime, or halt the spread of communicable diseases, when parents instruct their children to avoid police and doctors.

Immigration concerns can cripple a city's ability to investigate or prosecute crime. Because they fear that police will ask about their immigration status or the status of people they know, 45 percent of Latinos say in surveys that they are less likely to report a crime or offer information about crimes, whether as a witness or a victim. This behavior extends throughout entire communities, far beyond undocumented immigrants or even immigrants with legal

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Kathleen Roche, et al., *Impacts of Immigration Actions and News and the Psychological Distress of U.S. Latino Parents Raising Adolescents*, J. Adolescent Health (forthcoming 2018), *available at* https://bit.ly/2FAbbrT.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> *Id*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> *Id*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Nik Theodore, *Insecure Communities: Latino Perceptions of Police Involvement in Immigration Enforcement*, May 2013, available at https://bit.ly/1Adp6RD.

status: 28 percent of Latinos born in the United States—U.S. citizens—say they are less likely to contact police, as the direct *victims* of a crime, because they fear immigration consequences for those close to them. The result is plain. "[T]he failure to obtain that victim and witness cooperation could both hinder law enforcement efforts and allow criminals to freely target communities with a large undocumented population, knowing that their crimes will be less likely to be reported." *City of Chicago v. Sessions*, No. 17-2991, 2018 U.S. App. LEXIS 9862, at \*15 (7th Cir. Apr. 19, 2018).

Recent federal actions and rhetoric have worsened this problem. In January 2017, for example, President Trump issued a sweeping executive order instructing law enforcement agencies to target more immigrants for deportation, encourage state and local government participation in federal immigration enforcement, and unilaterally withdraw all federal funding from whatever jurisdictions the Attorney General deemed "sanctuary jurisdictions." Exec. Order No. 13,768, 82 Fed. Reg. 8799 (Jan. 25, 2017). This unprecedented attempt to coerce local governments into serving as federal immigration agents has already been found unconstitutional. *County of Santa Clara v. Trump*, 275 F. Supp. 3d 1196 (N.D. Cal. 2017). Even so, it sent an unmistakable message to immigrants, raising the specter that any interaction with local authorities could risk immigration consequences. Indeed, in remarks before Congress, acting Immigration and Customs Enforcement Director Tom Homan told undocumented immigrants, "[Y]ou should be uncomfortable ... You should look over your shoulder." 12

This message was heard loud and clear, sending many residents into the shadows, to the detriment of their own safety and the public's. In Houston, for example, the number of Latinos reporting rapes dropped by 40 percent compared to the year before, even as non-Latino victims

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> *Id*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Dara Lind, *Fear Itself: Donald Trump's Real Immigration Policy*, Vox (Sep. 17, 2017), https://bit.ly/2h3IcGo.

reported an increased number of rapes.<sup>13</sup> Latinos in Salt Lake City reported 36 percent fewer larcenies and thefts, even as crime reporting among other demographics stayed roughly the same.<sup>14</sup> Fears of deportation caused victims to drop their domestic violence cases in cities like Austin, San Antonio, and Denver.<sup>15</sup>

Public health, too, has suffered. Doctors have reported parents cancelling their children's pediatric appointments and vaccinations over immigration fears, <sup>16</sup> or cancelling health insurance coverage altogether. <sup>17</sup> Many immigrant patients have applied for public medical coverage but withheld sensitive identifying information from their forms—precisely the kind of information many cities and the California Values Act try to keep confidential—and then are predictably denied for having submitted incomplete applications. <sup>18</sup> Nationwide, in one of the worst flu seasons in memory, eight percent fewer Hispanic adults received flu shots this year than in 2016, compared to a two percent decline among all Americans. <sup>19</sup> As one legal resident explained to the Associated Press, "We're afraid of maybe getting sick or getting into an accident, but the fear of my husband being deported is bigger."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Jennifer Medina, *Too Scared to Report Sexual Abuse. The Fear: Deportation.*, N.Y. Times (Apr. 30, 2017), https://nyti.ms/2pOOe0Q; Brooke A. Lewis, *HPD Chief Announces Decrease in Hispanics Reporting Rape and Violent Crimes Compared to Last Year*, Houston Chron. (Apr. 6, 2017), https://bit.ly/2wvUQVV.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Christopher Smart, Fearful of deportation, unauthorized immigrants in Salt Lake City are not reporting crime, police chief says, The Salt Lake Trib., Jan. 9, 2018, https://bit.ly/2wDRlx1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Tom Dart, *Fearing deportation, undocumented immigrants wary of reporting crimes*, The Guardian, Mar. 23, 2017, https://bit.ly/2nMHVd7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Nicole Rodriguez, *Trump's Immigration Crackdown Creating a Public Health Crisis Among Children, Analysts Say*, Newsweek, Jan. 4, 2018, https://bit.ly/2E6M93w.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Emily Bazar, *Some Immigrants, Fearful of Political Climate, Shy Away from Medi-Cal*, California Healthline, Feb. 16, 2017, https://bit.ly/2KPyQbK.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Kelli Kennedy, *Immigration Concerns Drive Legal Immigrants Away from Public Health Care*, Christian Sci. Monitor (Jan. 22, 2018), https://bit.ly/2IxTi2z.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Donald G. McNeil, Jr., *Trump, Tell Us About Your Flu Shot*, N.Y. Times, Feb. 9, 2018, https://nyti.ms/2KRM8EI.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Kennedy, *supra* note 18.

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These trends are consistent with what local governments have long known: when states and local governments engage in immigration enforcement, immigrant communities disengage from public services. After Arizona enacted SB 1070—which among other things allowed and sometimes required state and local police officers to enforce federal immigration law<sup>21</sup>— Mexican-origin citizens and non-citizens alike avoided basic preventive health care, including for their children.<sup>22</sup> Notably, even the *message* that states will engage in immigration enforcement is enough to trigger this effect. California's Proposition 187, for example, would have required all government officials to report any person using public services who was suspected of being an undocumented immigrant to federal immigration enforcement.<sup>23</sup> Even though Prop. 187 was immediately enjoined by a federal court, it nonetheless resulted in reduced medical care in immigrant communities—including for highly communicable diseases like tuberculosis.<sup>24</sup> Likewise, Alabama's HB 56 required, among other things, that public schools check the immigration status of all students.<sup>25</sup> Again, although this provision was blocked from taking effect, the U.S. Department of Justice observed that 13.4 percent of Hispanic children dropped out of school as a result, while other groups of students were unaffected.<sup>26</sup> And in the public health arena, when Indiana began asking women and children receiving nutritional assistance about their immigration status, enrollment immediately plunged.<sup>27</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Arizona v. United States, 567 U.S. 387, 394 (2012).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Russell B. Toomey, et al., *Impact of Arizona's SB 1070 Immigration Law on Utilization of Health Care and Public Assistance Among Mexican-Origin Adolescent Mothers and Their Mother Figures*, 104 Am. J. Pub. Health S28 (2014), *available at* https://bit.ly/2IbAx1w.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> See LULAC v. Wilson, 908 F.Supp. 755 (C.D. Cal. 1995).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Kari White, et al., *Impact of Alabama's Immigration Law on Access to Health Care Among Latina Immigrants and Children: Implications for National Reform*, 104 Am. J. Pub. Health 397 (2014), *available at* https://bit.ly/2G2U3eS.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> See Hispanic Interest Coalition v. Governor of Ala., 691 F.3d 1236 (11th Cir. 2012).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Feds: Alabama immigration law caused spike in Hispanic student absences, CNN (May 4, 2012), https://cnn.it/2IbV0U3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> Emily Baumgaertner, *Spooked by Trump Proposals, Immigrants Abandon Public Nutrition Services*, N.Y. Times (Mar. 6, 2018), https://nyti.ms/2HeoMqg.

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# B. Local policies to limit information sharing with federal immigration authorities promote trust in local governments, which is necessary to protect public safety and health.

As the data discussed above illustrates, the mere threat of local participation in federal immigration enforcement efforts drives a wedge between local governments and their residents. But state and local governments can mitigate the fear that drives people away from engaging in essential government services by sending a clear, unequivocal message that we will protect the information that immigrants and their loved ones provide to the police, the public health system, and schools. For example, unlike many other cities, in early 2017 New York City saw no decline in crime reporting associated with ZIP codes with the highest foreign-born or noncitizen populations.<sup>28</sup> This trend extended to crimes like harassment and rape, where a greater chilling effect would be expected if residents were afraid to contact the police because of immigration concerns.<sup>29</sup> Crimes continue to be reported—and therefore, dangerous criminals continue to be arrested and prosecuted. New York City clinics and hospitals reported no decrease in outpatient visits across population groups, including by immigrant communities.<sup>30</sup> Residents continue to get the medical care they need, and communicable diseases are not allowed to spread through the population unchecked. And despite the intense distress of public school students with immigrant family members, 31 there was no decrease in New York City school attendance.<sup>32</sup> Notably, New York City data showed immense anxiety in immigrant communities during this time period—such as huge spikes in requests for birth certificates and other vital records by families planning for the safety of their children should they be deported—but that anxiety did not cause immigrants to disengage from local service providers.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> Memorandum from Sabrina Fong, N.Y.C. Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs to file (May 8, 2018).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> *Id*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> *Id*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> Monica Disare, Could fear of Trump's immigration policies keep New York City students out of school?, Chalkbeat (Mar. 1, 2017), https://bit.ly/2rxW5iu.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> Memorandum from Sabrina Fong, *supra* note 28.

New York City officials attribute these successes to the City's policies protecting confidential information, including by limiting the information it shares with federal immigration authorities, and the City's visibly demonstrated independence from immigration enforcement efforts, for instance, its refusal to share the release dates of certain detainees with immigration authorities. Local agencies have systematically communicated these policies to residents as part of sustained efforts to maintain trust with immigrant communities and other vulnerable populations.<sup>33</sup> Without such policies, New York City could not credibly assure its immigrant communities that they can confidently and safely interact with government. It has taken decades to build the trust needed to prevent the disruptions to public safety and public health on display elsewhere. The DOJ would have local governments betray that trust overnight. As the Seventh Circuit recently recognized, "[s]uch trust, once destroyed by the mandated cooperation and communication with the federal immigration authorities, would not easily be restored." *City of Chicago*, 2018 U.S. App. LEXIS 9862, at \*45.

Cities and counties across the nation, likewise, have experienced the importance of these kinds of policies. In Cook County, for example, both the county's prosecutors and its public defenders have provided sworn declarations that forcing the county to provide federal immigration officials with information like notifications of inmate release dates would reduce cooperation with the legal system and increase violent crime.<sup>34</sup> According to Philadelphia Police Commissioner Richard Ross, crime has decreased by 17 percent—including a 20 percent drop in violent crime—since 2009 when the city's mayor issued an executive order requiring

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> See, e.g., Cassi Feldman, Despite Trump immigration crackdown, city tells students and families: 'We stand with you', Chalkbeat (Jan. 30, 2017), https://bit.ly/2rxttWz; N.Y.C. Health + Hospitals, Seek Care Without Fear, https://bit.ly/2G4otx1 (last visited May 7, 2018); CBS New York, NYPD Memo Emphasizes Commitment to Immigrants (Feb. 22, 2017), https://cbsloc.al/2L0eD2Y. See also Cara Buckley, New York City Police Seek Trust Among Immigrants, N.Y. Times (May 31, 2007) (showing length of efforts to build trust between police and immigrant communities).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> Brief of Amicus Curiae Cook County and other Amici in Support of Pl. Motion for Prelim. Injunction, *City of Chicago v. Sessions*, 264 F. Supp. 3d 933, No. 1:17-cv-5720 (N.D. Ill. 2017).

city officers and employees to maintain the confidentiality of residents' immigration information.<sup>35</sup> Philadelphia is currently experiencing its lowest crime rate in four decades for serious crimes such as murder, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault. Moreover, in separate litigation involving the Department of Justice, a federal district court in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania issued findings of fact, after an evidentiary hearing, that without Philadelphia's policies regarding the disclosure of immigration information, "the overall security and safety of many neighborhoods and communities would suffer" and there would be an increased risk of the "spread of an infectious disease." *City of Philadelphia v. Sessions*, 280 F. Supp. 3d 579, 611 (E.D. Pa. 2017).

Drawing a bright line separating local governments' efforts to provide services from federal activities around immigration enforcement is a well-established best practice, particularly among law enforcement organizations. The International Association of Chiefs of Police has recognized the concern that state and local police cooperation with federal immigration enforcement activities "could have a chilling effect in immigrant communities and could limit cooperation with police by members of those communities," especially in the realm of domestic violence reporting. Similarly, the Major Cities Chiefs Association—whose members include the 69 largest law enforcement agencies in the United States—concluded that local police efforts in support of enforcing federal immigration law "undermines the trust and cooperation with immigrant communities which are essential elements of community oriented policing."

The President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing adopted a similar position. The Task Force—formed under the previous administration—engaged with a wide variety of stakeholders from across the country to formulate recommendations designed to "strengthen"

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup> Memorandum from City of Philadelphia to City of New York (May 16, 2018).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> Int'l Ass'n of Chiefs of Police, *Enforcing Immigration Law: The Role of State, Tribal and Local Law Enforcement*, at 5, available at http://bit.ly/2ksLZxb.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> Major Cities Chiefs Ass'n, *Major Cities Chiefs Association Immigration Position* (Oct. 2011), accessed May 4, 2018, https://bit.ly/2IoRh91.

community policing and trust among law enforcement officers and the communities they serve."<sup>38</sup> The Task Force recognized that the ability of local law enforcement to build strong relationships with immigrant communities is necessary for public safety and community well-being. Thus, the President's Task Force counseled, "whenever possible, state and local law enforcement should not be involved in immigration enforcement."<sup>39</sup> The Task Force recommended, as a matter of good law enforcement practice, that agencies should "decouple" local policing from federal immigration enforcement, including by ending the use of notification requests by the Department of Homeland Security. When California and other state and local governments decline requests to notify federal immigration authorities of certain detainees' release dates, they are implementing policies supported by the best law enforcement thinking nationwide.

Congress too has recognized that keeping personal information confidential can serve important functions. For instance, the federal government has used confidentiality guarantees to encourage people to participate in the census and pay federal taxes. *See* 13 U.S.C. § 9(a); 26 U.S.C. § 6103. Congress recognized that these goals could be better achieved by removing the threat that the information people share with the government will be used against them in a context wholly divorced from the reason they shared their information in the first place.

This, in the end, is what so-called sanctuary policies try to do. They create a zone free of immigration anxiety in which other essential government interests can be realized. In its rush to condemn the California Values Act, the DOJ misses the law's basic purpose—a purpose that animates similar local government policies across the nation. Charged with the responsibility for protecting, teaching, and serving all of our residents, we have enacted policies to make clear to our residents that they can engage with local governments, secure in the knowledge that we will protect their confidential information and keep our services separate from federal

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> The President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing, *Final Report* (May 2015), at iii, 1, available at https://bit.ly/2KPn5lP.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> *Id.* at 18.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> *Id*.

1	immigration enforcement efforts to the utmost of our ability. Based on our experiences as the	
2	front-line providers of government services, we have concluded that these policies are essential	
3	to our ability to engage in good and effective governance. They create safer and more	
4	prosperous communities. <sup>41</sup> Contrary to the DOJ's suggestions, we—and the State of	
5	California—have the most compelling interests at stake: public safety, health, and education.	
6	The federal government's pursuit of its immigration enforcement objectives need not an	
7	should not cripple the ability of state and local governments to perform their core jobs serving	
8	all residents. The federalist structure of our Constitution, far from requiring that result, is mean	
9	to guard against it.	
10	CONCLUSION	
11	The Court should deny plaintiff's motion for a preliminary injunction and gran	
12	defendants' motion to dismiss.	
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27	<sup>41</sup> Tom K. Wong, Center for American Progress, <i>The Effects of Sanctuary Policies on Crime and the Economy</i> (Jan. 26, 2017), available at http://ampr.gs/2kxOcHX.	
28	Crane with the Debuting (Juli 20, 2017), available at http://ampr.go/2kx001171.	

<sup>|</sup> Crime and the Economy (Jan. 26, 2017), available at http://ampr.gs/2kxOcHX.

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