



# CALIFORNIA LEGISLATIVE TRI-CAUCUS

Asian Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus • Latino Legislative Caucus • Legislative Black Caucus



April 22, 2010

The Honorable Jan Brewer  
Governor, State of Arizona  
1700 West Washington  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Dear Governor Brewer,

As the current Chairs of the California Latino Legislative Caucus, the Asian Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus and the Black Legislative Caucus we are writing today to express our strong opposition to Arizona Senate Bill 1070. We are taking the unprecedented step in writing to you because your decision on this legislation may have a direct impact on the relationship between our state and Mexico.

Like Arizona, California shares a very strong economic and cultural connection with Mexico. Over the past several years this relationship has been challenged with the fallout from the economic crisis and the effects of the ongoing drug war. By facing these challenges together the bonds between our two countries have become stronger. Critical to this success has been the open dialogue and trust between both countries in developing strategies that will build safe and sustainable border communities.

The legislation before you would, among other things, require local law enforcement to determine immigration status of individuals upon "reasonable suspicion," which can lead to criminal penalties if no proof of lawful presence is demonstrated. The institutionalization of such practices would inevitably lead to unlawful racial profiling and have people, including U.S. citizens, legal immigrants and undocumented immigrants alike live under the same cloud of suspicion and fear.

The legislation would also potentially criminalize families for allowing relatives to visit their homes, and is likely to cause major disruption to Arizona's economy particularly in the tourism, agricultural and construction sectors. In addition, immigrants would refuse to cooperate with law enforcement in criminal investigations, including human trafficking, domestic violence and other serious crimes.

As the current Chairs of California Tri-Caucus, we understand the position you find yourself in, however, we firmly believe and respectfully request that you veto this bill. If you have any questions or would like to further discuss this matter please feel free to contact us at (916) 651-4022.

Sincerely,

Senator Gilbert Cedillo  
Chairman  
California Latino Legislative Caucus

Assemblymember Sandre Swanson  
Chairman, Black Legislative Caucus

Assemblymember Warren Furutani  
Chairman, Asian Pacific Islander Caucus