



**SENATE MINORITY LEADER
BRIAN W. JONES**

Senate Bill 554 Fact Sheet – Safety Before Criminal Sanctuary Act

SUMMARY

SB 554 provides limitations to Senate Bill 54 (2017), which declares California as a Sanctuary State. While maintaining existing limits on state and local engagement with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), this bill mandates cooperation in cases involving specific violent crimes already exempted under SB 54.

BACKGROUND

SB 54 (De León, 2017) designated California as a sanctuary state, restricting the use of state and local resources for federal immigration enforcement. However, the law included exceptions allowing—though not requiring—local law enforcement to cooperate with ICE when individuals are convicted of specified felonies, including serious or violent crimes, child abuse, unlawful weapon possession or use, DUIs, trafficking controlled substances, human trafficking, rape, kidnapping, torture, gang activity, and those on the Sex and Arson Registry.

PROBLEM

Currently, California law permits local law enforcement to cooperate with ICE in the transfer of individuals convicted of certain serious crimes, but does not require it. In sanctuary jurisdictions, many local agencies choose not to coordinate with ICE.

As a result, ICE is forced to enter neighborhoods, workplaces, and other public areas to locate these individuals, often leading to “collateral arrests” where undocumented individuals are detained alongside violent offenders.

Those collateral arrests often include parents, children, and others with no criminal history. By prohibiting cooperation with ICE, sanctuary policies unintentionally push federal immigration enforcement into the broader community, increasing the risk of unintended consequences and indiscriminate arrests.

SOLUTION

SB 554 mandates that local law enforcement cooperate with ICE in cases where SB 54 simply allows it, ensuring violent offenders are not shielded from federal immigration authorities.

SUPPORT

Congressman Darrell Issa
San Diego County Supervisor Jim Desmond
San Diego County Supervisor Joel Anderson
Fresno County Supervisor Nathan Magsig
San Diego Deputy Sheriffs’ Association
Riverside County Sheriff Chad Bianco
El Cajon Mayor Bill Wells
Vista Mayor John Franklin
Carlsbad Mayor Keith Blackburn
San Marcos Councilman Ed Musgrove
The RAD Movement

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