[DATE]

The Honorable Gavin Newsom

Governor of California

State Capitol

Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 1282 (Kalra) – No Private ICE Act – Request for signature**

Dear Governor Gavin Newsom,

On behalf of the **[Organization Name],** I write to express our strong support for Assembly Bill 1282 (Kalra), the “No Private ICE Act,” which would prohibit the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) from assisting or allowing private security contractors to arrest individuals in CDCR custody for immigration purposes.

**[OPTIONAL: INSERT A PARAGRAPH ABOUT YOUR ORGANIZATION AND WHY YOU SUPPORTS AB 1282.]**

We are concerned that many arrests for immigration enforcement purposes in state prisons are conducted by employees of private security corporations, which have been contracted by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). In particular, ICE contracts with notorious private prison and security corporation, G4S Wackenhut, to arrest and transport immigration detainees from state prisons to ICE detention facilities. G4S is the largest private security corporation in the world, with over half a million employees in 125 countries. G4S is involved in managing prison and detention facilities around the world, transporting immigrants for ICE, and electronic tagging and monitoring. G4S is the subject of numerous complaints of physical abuse, excessive force, and sexual abuse against immigrants, youth, and other detainees. *See* American Friends Service Committee, Investigate Website on G4S, available at: <http://investigate.afsc.org/company/g4s>.

In California state prisons, G4S employees often conduct arrests on their own. ICE officers are completely absent when immigrants leave state custody and are handcuffed by G4S employees. Immigrants are then transported by G4S employees to an ICE field office, often hours away, where ICE officers enter the picture for the first time.

CDCR should be prohibited from turning individuals over to private security contractors because private contractors clearly do not have the legal authority to conduct immigration arrests. In particular, ICE’s use of private contractors to execute immigration arrest warrants violates the federal Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) and its implementing regulations. The INA outlines the specific powers of immigration officers, including execution of immigration orders, warrants, subpoenas, summons and other processes issued under that authority. *See* 8 U.S.C. § 1357; 8 C.F.R. § 287.5. The implementing regulations, Section 287.5 of Title 8 of the Code of Federal Regulations, provide authority to specific federally classified law enforcement officers to execute arrest warrants for immigration violations. Neither the INA nor the implementing regulation provide legal authority to privately employed or contracted security guards to enforce federal immigration law, including detaining, taking into custody or arresting an undocumented immigrant.

For the above reasons, we strongly support passage of AB 1282. Please do not hesitate to contact me at [**[email address]**](mailto:nkaujiab@searac.org) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

**[Name of Executive Director / Director]**

**[Title]**

**[Address]**