

ITEM #10  
02/25/2025

**From:** Shelly Spencer <spencers3online@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 23, 2025 10:14 PM  
**To:** Clerk/BOS  
**Subject:** Bredefeld explain DEI comments

**CAUTION!!! - EXTERNAL EMAIL - THINK BEFORE YOU CLICK**

Report Suspicious

For the upcoming board of supervisors meeting, I would appreciate if Mr. Bredefeld would address some unclear points:

- Why would Mr Bredefeld direct staff to take an action that was not processed with other supervisors, and potentially run counter to state law?  
(In this case removing "DEI language" from county job descriptions)
- Why did Mr Bredefeld hold a press conference to highlight this questionable behavior?
- Does Mr Bredefeld plan to make a habit of taking County actions (or holding County press conferences) without consulting with the other supervisors?
- Since Mr Bredefeld would prefer "color blindness" as a standard (as quoted by Fresnoland) does that mean he does not believe the historical red lining of Fresno has not relevant impact on our city today?  
(For background, ref any number of articles; one is provided below)
- Since Mr Bredefeld has made DEI themes a a focus, would he be willing to review the difference between "equity" and his preferred standard of "equality"?

<https://fresnoland.org/2025/02/14/fresno-county-eliminates-diversity-and-inclusive-language-from-hiring-materials-at-one-supervisors-request/>

<https://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2018/08/fresnos-segregation/567299/>

Thank you.  
Shelly Spencer  
Fresno County resident

FOR PUBLIC COMMENT  
February 25, 2025

**The Importance of Diversity, Equity, and  
Inclusion Language in County Occupations**

ITEM #10  
02/25/2025

Hello Fresno County Board of Supervisors and thank you for the opportunity to speak on an issue close to me. I have an extensive background in non-profit community work and have been helping connect and provide services to underserved and historically discriminated against populations across Kings, Tulare, and Fresno counties. I have a BA in Psychology with a focus on Gender and Trauma studies and am pursuing a Masters in Public Administration Nonprofit Management. I am deeply concerned about the recent directive from Supervisor Bredefeld to remove Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion language from county job postings and descriptions --- particularly in Behavioral Health and Social Services. This decision was made *without* public discussion or proper oversight and it directly undermines the very community our county is supposed to serve.

Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-16-22, signed on September 13th, 2022 and effective through 2026, mandates that all state agencies and departments update their strategic plans to use data analysis and inclusive practices to advance equity. This includes changes to mission statements, policies, programs, operations, and hiring practices to better serve ALL Californians. I provided a copy of this order attached to my public comment. Stripping DEI language from job postings is not just harmful, it is a direct violation of this Executive Order.

Beyond the legal concerns, the real world impact will be devastating. Research from GlassDoor, Catalyst Center, and Pew Research Center found that 75% of job seekers and those currently employed consider DEI a major factor when deciding where to work. More concerning, 33% of applicants will not even apply to a workplace that seems to lack diversity. Simply put, removing DEI language in employment will make it harder to attract and retain skilled professionals, weakening essential county services and making Fresno a less desirable place to live.

When it comes to Behavioral Health and Social Services specifically, cultural competence is an *essential*, not optional. Having a workforce that reflects the community it serves builds trust, improves outcomes, and ensures that services are accessible and effective. Here in Fresno County, not a single racial or ethnic group holds a majority. Our county is made up of hardworking, strong Latino, Asian American, Black, Indigenous, and Immigrant families. They deserve to have providers and representatives who understand their culture and experiences. Removing DEI language sends a clear message that this Board does not value those principles.

Supervisor Bredefeld's actions are an abuse of power, a direct violation of state policy, and a short-sighted decision that will hurt Fresno County's ability to recruit and retain qualified workers. I urge the Board to reverse Supervisor Bredefeld's directive, hold a transparent and public discussion, and reaffirm its commitment to serving ALL members of this county with fairness and equity.

A Concerned Community Member,

*Alyssa Blue*

alyssaLward.97@gmail.com

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER N-16-22**

**WHEREAS** California is the largest and most diverse state in the nation, shaped by the contributions of all its residents, including California Native Americans, communities of color, immigrants, and descendants of immigrants who call our golden state home, and welcomes all people to pursue bold dreams and renews the California dream for every new generation; and

**WHEREAS** California has a strong history of fighting for freedom and civil rights for all people; and

**WHEREAS** California leads the nation in confronting the climate crisis and building community resilience through equity and opportunity, including supporting communities that experience the greatest social and health inequities from climate change; and

**WHEREAS** California continues to march towards equality and to address our nation's and our State's historical wrongs, including through recognition of gay marriage in San Francisco; placing a moratorium on the death penalty in California; advancing immigrant equity and inclusion; protecting access to reproductive health care; compensating survivors of state-sponsored sterilization; ending sub-minimum wage employment; and recently forming the Truth and Healing Council and the Reparations Task Force; and

**WHEREAS** California has also demonstrated a fundamental commitment to prosperity and opportunity for all, including, but not limited to, advancing policies around health care for all; historic financial investments to advance educational equity; age-friendly communities; actions to further gender equity with the leadership of the First Partner; and the creation of a State Chief Equity Officer to provide statewide leadership and consultation on diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility regarding state operations, procurement, information technology, and human resources; and

**WHEREAS** the State has invested to improve language access across the spectrum of health and human services programs, and to increase participation of Californians who are non-English or limited-English speakers in California's public hearings and meetings, and will continue to work with agencies and departments to improve the delivery of language access and accessibility; and

**WHEREAS** despite this progress, continued work remains to attain our shared goals of providing equal opportunity for all and addressing persistent disparities in outcomes; and

**WHEREAS** state government can take additional concrete steps to address existing disparities in opportunities and outcomes and advance equity by designing and delivering state services and programs, consistent with federal and state constitutional requirements, to address unequal starting points and drive equal outcomes so all Californians may reach their full potential and lead healthy and rewarding lives; and

**WHEREAS** agencies and departments within my Administration can and should take additional actions to embed explicit analysis of equity considerations in policies and practices, including by analyzing demographic

and geographic gaps in outcomes and access to funding and services, developing and consistently utilizing data analysis tools and practices to understand gaps in access to services and programs or outcomes from state programs, and reviewing community engagement strategies with a focus on Californians who reside in communities that have historically been underserved and marginalized; and

**WHEREAS** the Department of Finance is the State's chief advisor on fiscal policy and leads the annual budget process; and at my direction, the Department is requiring an analysis of equity considerations in budget change proposals through which all agencies and departments must obtain approval for changes in the level of service, and changes in funding sources for authorized activities or to propose new program activities not currently authorized, to improve the evaluation of any proposal's impact on Californians; and

**WHEREAS** a state workforce that reflects the diversity of the people of California is integral to our State's success in serving and responding to the needs of a diverse California population, and recent investments to ensure that positions in state government are attractive and available to Californians from all backgrounds will advance this goal; and

**WHEREAS** the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, passed by Congress and signed into law in 2021, provides an opportunity for partnership with California small businesses, disadvantaged business enterprises, Tribal governments, community-based organizations, and nonprofit organizations to support more investment in economically and socially disadvantaged communities from this federal funding to modernize crucial infrastructure and accelerate our clean transportation progress; and

**WHEREAS** the State can improve outcomes and deliver better services by making its procurement policies simpler, faster, and more human-centered for buyers and vendor partners; and

**WHEREAS** the Targeted Area Contract Preference Act (TACPA) is a tool designed to stimulate economic growth and opportunities in disadvantaged zones throughout the State, and raising awareness of its benefits will increase opportunities for California-based companies to operate eligible worksites in these disadvantaged zones and employ Californians experiencing high unemployment or poverty; and

**WHEREAS** California's Civil Rights Department is the state agency charged with enforcing the Fair Employment and Housing Act; Unruh Civil Rights Act; Disabled Persons Act; Ralph Civil Rights Act, and other civil rights laws; adopting regulations to implement civil rights laws; providing dispute resolution services to people who believe they are the victim of discrimination; and providing community conflict resolution around discriminatory practices; and

**WHEREAS** California has advanced critical investments to respond to increased hate violence including establishing the Commission on the State of Hate in the Civil Rights Department to study hate in California, develop anti-hate resources for law enforcement and others, and make recommendations to better protect civil rights; to fund the "California versus Hate Resource Line and Network" to support survivors of hate incidents and crimes with culturally competent resources and services; and to improve the State's ability to understand and act to address economic and health impacts of hate, including through community engagement and sharing of anti-hate resources; and

**WHEREAS** California's Civil Rights Department is charged with publishing an annual report of pay data provided by private employers of 100 or more employees with at least one employee in California, to encourage employers to self-assess and voluntarily address pay disparities among demographic groups and to allow the Department to effectively enforce equal pay and anti-discrimination laws; and

**WHEREAS** the Office of Data and Innovation was recently reorganized to empower all state agencies and departments to drive better services, decisions, and outcomes through the use of data, user-centered design, and technology; and

**WHEREAS** data-driven goals and indicators are vital for state agencies and departments to measure opportunities and outcomes for all communities and to support public engagement and accountability in an efficient, effective, secure, and responsible manner; and

**WHEREAS** accelerating these actions and investments, including many achieved in partnership with the Legislature, and ensuring that agencies and departments explicitly consider equity and adoption of inclusive practices when developing strategic plans will strengthen the State's service to Californians and further collective efforts to improve opportunity by addressing disparities for underserved and marginalized communities; and

**WHEREAS** state agencies and departments and other governmental entities can benefit from having access to expertise, data tools, methodologies, and practices as they review programs and practices to further racial equity and achieve more equitable outcomes.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM**, Governor of the State of California, in accordance with the authority vested in me by the State Constitution and statutes of the State of California do hereby issue the following Order to become effective immediately:

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:**

1. All agencies and departments subject to my authority shall, for any strategic plans applicable during the 2023-24, 2024-25, and/or 2025-26 fiscal years:
  - a. develop or update the strategic plan to reflect the use of data analysis and inclusive practices to more effectively advance equity and to respond to identified disparities with changes to the organization's mission, vision, goals, data tools, policies, programs, operations, community engagement, tribal consultation policies and practices, and other actions as necessary to serve all Californians; and
  - b. as part of the development or updating of the strategic plans, engage and gather input from California communities that have been historically disadvantaged and underserved within the scope of policies or programs administered or implemented by the agency or department, and make the plans publicly available.
2. The Department of Human Resources (CalHR) shall undertake the following actions:
  - a. by July 1, 2023, report and analyze existing detailed state employee data and collect new data including race/ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, and number of employees with a disability; and

- b. by December 31, 2023, design, develop, test, and maintain an anonymous hiring system in the Examination and Certification Online System (ECOS) for job applicants; and
  - c. by December 31, 2023, collect hiring and vacancy data from agencies and departments subject to my authority, to identify critical hard-to-fill positions, and create new pathways and/or apprenticeship opportunities for new and existing employees to qualify for these positions.
- 3. By November 15, 2022, all agencies and departments subject to my authority shall, to the extent that they apply for federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA):
  - a. develop and submit to the State's Infrastructure Coordinator action plans to increase access to the grant or contract selection process for small business and disadvantaged business enterprises for all federal IIJA funded contracts; and
  - b. develop and submit to the State's Infrastructure Coordinator action plans to meaningfully engage with tribal governments, nonprofits, and other community organizations to increase access to IIJA funding opportunities.
- 4. With respect to the Target Area Contract Preference Act (TACPA):
  - a. by September 30, 2022, the Department of General Services shall develop a training module for all agencies, departments, boards, and offices on the effective implementation of TACPA; and
  - b. by December 31, 2022, relevant contracting and programmatic staff at all agencies and departments subject to my authority shall complete the training described in subparagraph a.
- 5. By September 30, 2023, the California Health and Human Services Agency and the Government Operations Agency shall develop recommendations to improve language and communications access to state government services and programs.
- 6. The Civil Rights Department shall:
  - a. by September 1, 2023, increase utilization of dispute resolution services by 20% and analyze available data of complaints making use of dispute resolution services; and
  - b. by January 1, 2023, implement a robust anti-hate strategy by:
    - i. launching community conflict resolution services funded by the 2022-2023 Budget Act; and
    - ii. establishing the CA v. Hate Resource Line and Network; and
    - iii. launching the Commission on the State of Hate; and
  - c. by February 1, 2023, review existing regulations implementing non-discrimination protections in state programs and activities and initiate rulemaking as appropriate based on that review; and
  - d. by June 1, 2023, expand upon its existing efforts to collect, analyze, disseminate, and enforce pay data reporting requirements by providing employers, when feasible, a graphical report of their pay data to facilitate self-assessment and correction of unjustified pay disparities, and conducting new analyses of collected pay data to identify disparities by job category, region, and industry.
- 7. By June 30, 2023, the Office of Data and Innovation, in consultation with agencies subject to my authority, shall develop a set of statewide data and service standards and practices to support agencies and departments to identify and address disparities in government operations and services, including but not limited to, standards for collecting and managing race and

ethnicity data, metrics for measuring and tracking equity in state services and programs, and service delivery standards to support equity. This will include best practices to address sensitivities around data collection.

8. The Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) shall create a Racial Equity Commission (commission), as follows:
  - a. The commission shall consist of eleven members who are California residents. My Administration shall appoint seven of the commission members. Additionally, OPR shall request that the Senate Committee on Rules appoint two members and that the Speaker of the Assembly appoint two members; and
  - b. Members will be appointed for a term of two years. Vacancies shall be filled in the same manner that provided for the original appointment; and
  - c. My Administration shall appoint, and the other appointing authorities are requested to appoint, individuals who have demonstrated expertise and meet criteria in at least one of the following areas:
    - i. analyzing, implementing, or developing public policies that impact racial equity as it relates to at least one of the following areas: broadband, climate change, disability rights, education, food insecurity, housing, immigration, land use, employment, environment, economic security, public health, health care, wealth, policing, criminal justice, transportation, youth leadership, agriculture, the wealth gap, entrepreneurship, arts and culture, voting rights, and public safety that may have an impact on racial equity or racial disparities; and
    - ii. developing or using data or budget equity assessment tools; and
    - iii. providing technical assistance in developing and implementing strategies for racial equity, including, but not limited to, guidance on employee training and support, development of racial equity programming, and assistance to organizations and departments on changing policies and practices to improve racial equity outcomes; and/or
    - iv. being a member of or representing an equity-focused organization that works with an impacted community whose lived experience will inform the work of the commission, including, but not limited to, members of the disability, immigrant, women's, and LGBTQ communities; and
  - d. My Administration also shall consider, and the other appointing authorities are also requested to consider, the expertise of the other members of the commission and make appointments that reflect the cultural, ethnic, racial, linguistic, sexual orientation, gender identity, immigrant experience, socioeconomic, age, disability, and geographical diversity of California; and
  - e. Commission members shall serve without compensation, but they may be reimbursed for necessary, pre-approved expenses incurred in connection with their duties, consistent with Government Code section 11009; and
  - f. The commission shall be staffed by OPR; and
  - g. The commission shall have the authority to:
    - i. hold hearings and perform acts that may be necessary to carry out the commission's duties; and
    - ii. engage with advisers or advisory committees when the commission determines that the experience or expertise of advisers or advisory committees is needed for commission work; and


- h. Relying upon publicly available information and data, the commission shall develop resources, best practices, and tools for advancing racial equity as follows:
- i. in consultation with private and public stakeholders, as appropriate, develop a statewide Racial Equity Framework. The Racial Equity Framework shall be approved by the commission, submitted to the Governor and the Legislature on or after December 1, 2024, but no later than April 1, 2025, and posted to the commission's internet website. The Racial Equity Framework shall set forth the following:
    - 1. methodologies and tools that can be employed in California to advance racial equity and address structural racism; and
    - 2. budget methodologies, including equity assessment tools, that entities can use to analyze how budget allocations benefit or burden communities of color; and
    - 3. processes for collecting and analyzing data effectively and safely, as appropriate and practicable, including disaggregation by race, ethnicity, sexual orientation and gender identity, disability, income, veteran status, or other key demographic variables and the use of proxies; and
    - 4. summaries of input and feedback from stakeholder engagements; and
  - ii. upon request by a state agency, provide technical assistance on implementing strategies for racial equity consistent with the Racial Equity Framework; and
  - iii. engage stakeholders and community members, including by holding quarterly stakeholder meetings, to seek input on the commission's work, as described; and
  - iv. engage, collaborate, and consult with policy experts to conduct analyses and develop tools, including by building on and collaborating with existing bodies, as appropriate; and
  - v. promote the ongoing, equitable delivery of benefits and opportunities by:
    - 1. providing technical assistance to local government entities engaging in racial equity programming, upon request from the local government; and
    - 2. encouraging the formation and implementation of racial equity initiatives by local government entities, including cities and counties; and
  - i. The commission shall prepare an annual report that summarizes feedback from public engagement with communities of color, provides data on racial inequities and disparities in the State, and recommends best practices on tools, methodologies, and opportunities to advance racial equity. The report shall be submitted to the Governor and the Legislature and shall be posted publicly on the commission's internet website. The first annual report shall be completed on or after December 1, 2025, but no later than April 1, 2026, and annually thereafter.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that, as soon as hereafter possible, this Order be filed in the Office of the Secretary of State and that widespread publicity and notice be given of this Order.



This Order is not intended to, and does not, create any rights or benefits, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity, against the State of California, its agencies, departments, entities, officers, employees, or any other person.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF** I have  
hereunto set my hand and caused  
the Great Seal of the State of  
California to be affixed this 13th day  
of September 2022.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gavin Newsom', written over a horizontal line.

GAVIN NEWSOM  
Governor of California

**ATTEST:**

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SHIRLEY N. WEBER, PH.D.  
Secretary of State

**From:** Michelle G <micgodinez3@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 25, 2025 9:13 AM  
**To:** Clerk/BOS  
**Subject:** Public Comment, DEIA

**CAUTION!!! - EXTERNAL EMAIL - THINK BEFORE YOU CLICK**

[Report Suspicious](#)

I honestly can't believe some people still think DEIA is solely about race. It's so easy to Google. Google is free.

Let's not forget what DEIA actually stands for, and why it's important to keep it. So I'll break it down. Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Accessibility.

A lot of DEIA supporters cite the US Civil Rights Act of 1964 as the catalyst for modern DEIA. The US Civil Rights Act of 1964 was proposed by John F. Kennedy and signed by Lyndon B. Johnson, outlawing discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, and national origin, prohibiting discrimination in public spaces, providing for the integration of schools and other public facilities, and making employment discrimination illegal.

Diversity covers women, people of color, LGBTQ+, people of all ages and cultures, people with disabilities, socioeconomic classes, religious backgrounds, and VETERAN STATUS. Preserving DEIA means employers cannot discriminate against you based on the above.

Bredefeld, you're a veteran. How would you like it if, in this case, a government employer decides not to hire someone based on prejudices they have against veterans such as "oh, they may be too traumatized, and they only have three fingers on their left hand. Are they even capable?. They're always trouble to have around. I'll pass." even though they are fully capable of their job duties, and are a good worker?

Being discriminated against in any form leads to inequitable outcomes. Equity means having fair compensation no matter who you are or what you believe in. Equity provides everyone with the unique resources and opportunities they need to reach an equal outcome, such as accommodations for people with disabilities, offering flexible hours and working schedules, advancement opportunities, and hiring for skill set rather than degree.

Inclusion is diversity in practice. It's bad being in an echo chamber hearing your same thoughts being repeated back to you but worded differently. We need to learn from others because there are many ways to live that we can learn from, and to learn how to welcome, support, respect and value those who come from different backgrounds.

The only people who think DEIA is about race are racists. Bredefeld, in 2017 you ranted about the NFL players exercising their First Amendment right, calling them "repugnant, disrespectful, misguided, and a dishonor to both the country and themselves." Then you said "Our national anthem -- our flag -- represents the men and women who gave life and limb for our country. It reflects their sacrifice so that we can live in freedom." But you know who gave their life and limb into creating the country you so cherish? On the backs of Black people. Then you went on a long, off-topic rant about Black people calling

them "blacks" which is historically dehumanizing and a word the KKK would use to refer to Black PEOPLE. Then you went on a tangent about Black kids growing up in fatherless homes, which is a racist stereotype. Just because they're counted as "single" in the household does not mean fatherless. That's a whole other discussion for another day, because that is a systemic racism issue.

Let's not lie to ourselves. Removing DEIA is only going to make it easier for employers to discriminate against us, and places are gonna start to look like pre-Civil Rights era since this is where this country is headed anyway. Whites Only!

**From:** Yamanaka, Kameko <Kameko.Yamanaka@fresnolibrary.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 25, 2025 9:48 AM  
**To:** Clerk/BOS  
**Subject:** Fw: INQUIRY -- Fresno County to Remove DEI Language

**CAUTION!!! - EXTERNAL EMAIL - THINK BEFORE YOU CLICK**

Report Suspicious

**From:** Yamanaka, Kameko  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 25, 2025 9:42 AM  
**To:** HR-Benefits <HRBenefits@fresnocountyca.gov>; Gomez, Sally <Sally.Gomez@fresnolibrary.org>  
**Subject:** INQUIRY -- Fresno County to Remove DEI Language

Hello.

I have recently been informed that under the leadership of Garry Bredefeld, without approval from his fellow Board of Supervisor members, has begun a campaign to remove Fresno County's "DEI language" – or language invoking diversity, equity and inclusion – from county job descriptions, and has directed the Human Resources team to remove all such language from job applications.

I have several questions regarding this initiative:

1. Does the removal of "DEI language" only apply to job applications, or does this initiative cover a much broader scope than I am aware of?
2. Is there a timeline of what policies are to be affected, and if so, what should Fresno County employees expect to no longer be protected under at the county level?
3. While I am aware that current mass firings are only affecting federal probationary employees (barring those under an exempt status), should Fresno County employees prepare for similar situations to be implemented locally, or does this require proper legislation through the Board of Supervisors before further action can be taken?

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Kameko Yamanaka *they/them*  
Fresno County Public Library  
Library Assistant, Woodward Park Regional Library  
559.600.9250

Item #10  
225-25

Ashley Schmidt

Letter

Feb 21, 2025 at 8:29:26 AM

Grammie Mom Hampton

19C EFL02813

Hello,

My name is Ashley Schmidt, I am a Clovis Unified Special Education teacher and a mother of 3 daughters. I have lived in Clovis Ca my whole life where I attended CUSD schools and California State University, Fresno.

I'm currently in the process of custody trial for my two daughters 12 yrs and 9 yrs. Following our divorce in 2019 my divorce was domestic violence where I had an EPO that lead to a permanent 1 yr DV order. Judge Wells put 50/50 custody order in place in 2021. My children came forward summer 2024 with abuse and neglect claims about their father. I've reported to Clovis PD and CPS. In custody trial Judge Lor pointed at me and said "my supposed DV history lead me to blow my daughters claims up without calling their father first to coparent with him." She said I created the fracture in their relationship. She said I need to work to repair it or I will face consequences. My children are scared of their father. They have told school admin, police, CPS, court mediator, pediatrician and therapists their story. Why are the courts not believing my children? Why are the courts not taking my history seriously? His latest ex wife filed for a restraining order 2023 and it was denied. Why was she not listened to? He violated my restraining order over 3 times but charges were dropped because he entered a military diversion program. I never saw any proof of completion of the program. Today in court Judge Lor did not listen to my daughter's statements to mediator of their dad's abuse and neglect. She went against the tier 3 mediator recommendations and against California law. She put in place visits starting this Saturday with their father. After her ruling I quoted Piqui's Law Senate Bill 331 and she said her ruling stood. Why is she able to go against California law Senate Bill 331, forcing children against their will to visit with someone they already reported for abuse?

I appreciate any advice and help you can offer.

Thank you for your time!

Ashley Schmidt

[559-960-3893](tel:559-960-3893)

My custody case is under Ashley Sparks.



## CITY of CLOVIS

- MAYOR PRO TEM DIANE PEARCE -

February 25, 2025

Buddy Mendes, Chairman  
Fresno County Board of Supervisors  
2281 Tulare Street, #301  
Fresno, CA 93721

Dear Chairman Mendes and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

I write this letter to express my support for any effort the Board of Supervisors may undertake to remove the dangerous situation created in our communities by SB 54. Our local law enforcement put their lives on the line every day for us. To have a State that does not allow them complete discretion to fully partner with **any and all** federal agencies to provide the highest level and utmost in public safety is unacceptable.

Sheriff Zanon has expressed his frustration with SB 54 and the restrictions it places on him and his department to have unfettered, two-way communication with federal immigration authorities. SB 54 forces Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officials outside the secure environment of our County Jail and into our neighborhoods among the general public to apprehend the criminals they are looking to remove from our communities. This is detrimental to public safety and creates unnecessary fear among law-abiding residents.

I have heard from countless Clovis residents about the concerns and burdens associated with illegal immigration. In December 2024, an illegal alien living in Clovis took the lives of a Coarsegold woman and a Clovis man in a DUI traffic collision. The people of Fresno County expect their government to make public safety its top priority. In a State that handcuffs law enforcement instead of criminals, we must rely on our local elected officials to stand up for our police departments and Sheriffs Office and our citizens and legal residents. I heard Supervisor Magsig express an openness to sue the State over SB 54 and Supervisor Bredefeld has stated his desire to see that happen as well. On behalf of those who have supported my speaking out against California's dangerous sanctuary state policies, I urge this Board to show Fresno County our commitment to law enforcement and public safety by filing a lawsuit against the State of California over SB 54.

Sincerely,

Diane Pearce  
Mayor Pro Tem, City of Clovis