

Communication from Public

Name: Penny Sommers

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Comments for Public Posting: In 2017, the League of Women Voters of California supported SB 54, the California Values Act, which would limit state and local law enforcement agencies' involvement in immigration enforcement and ensure that eligible individuals are able to seek services from and engage with government agencies without regard to their immigration status. State and local resources and personnel would not be used for immigration enforcement purposes. The League of Women Voters of Greater Los Angeles has continued its strong support for Angelenos, regardless of their immigration status. * RepresentLA (formerly the Los Angeles Justice Fund) provides legal representation to immigrants, in custody or in the community, who face deportation, and to vulnerable individuals seeking affirmative immigration relief. * Then-Mayor Eric Garcetti issued an executive directive in 2019 that offered protections to the immigrant community. * City Council unanimously passed the Sanctuary City motion on March 7, 2023. We still have not seen ordinance language presented to the City Council. It has been 19 months since the City council passed the Sanctuary City motion. A City Council motion means nothing without an ordinance to provide guidance and accountability. We are concerned that personal information could be gathered and shared with federal immigration authorities. In this political climate, where immigrants are targets of unfounded blame for all that is wrong with our country, we urge you to enshrine the strongest possible immigrant protections into municipal law by advancing and passing the Sanctuary Ordinance as quickly as possible. Sincerely, Penny Sommers and Mary Dickson, Co-Presidents League of Women Voters of Greater Los Angeles