

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS GLORIA MOLINA AND
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SUBSTITUTE FOR ITEM NO. 26-D

Yesterday, the United States Senate Judiciary Committee adopted a comprehensive approach to immigration reform which includes most of the language in S. 1033, the Secure America and Orderly Immigration Act introduced by Senators Edward Kennedy (D-MA) and John McCain (R-AZ). This bipartisan legislation addresses the complexities of immigration in our country by recognizing the contributions made by immigrants to our nation while strengthening border enforcement.

In December, 2005 the House of Representatives approved H.R. 4437 (Sensenbrenner) which takes a much different approach to immigration policy. H.R. 4437 includes some reasonable measures, such as making it easier to deport illegal immigrants who are identified as terrorists and requiring that employers screen prospective employees' Social Security Numbers to ensure that they are legally eligible to work in the United States. However, H.R. 4437 also contains very troubling

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elements, such as making it an aggravated felony for persons to be in the country in violation of immigration laws; expanding the definition of alien smuggling to make it a crime to help illegal immigrants; and requiring that local government agencies authorize their law enforcement officers to assist with Federal immigration law enforcement in the course of carrying out their routine law enforcement duties as a condition for receipt of “SCAAP” funds (Federal funds that assist localities with large numbers of criminal aliens in their custody systems).

WE, THEREFORE, MOVE that this Board take a support position for the immigration reform legislation adopted by the Senate Judiciary Committee; and an oppose position for H.R. 4437 (Sensenbrenner).

MS/sf