



**PUBLIC REQUEST TO ADDRESS
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS
HOLLY J. MITCHELL
LINDSEY P. HORVATH
JANICE HAHN
KATHRYN BARGER

Correspondence Received

Agenda #	Relate To	Position	The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:	
			Name	Comments
20.		Favor	Alfred Zach O Tingabngab	
			Allison Borgeson	
			Amy Walker	
			Ann Dorsey	
			Armando Espinoza	
			Charlene Wang	
			Charlotte Swanson	
			Cynthia Ferguson	Yesss!!
			Delaney C Toler	
			Emily Y Chong	On behalf of Bet Tzedek Legal Services, we write in strong support of Agenda Item No. 20. We appreciate the Board's intention of ensuring education access for immigrant students and would like to offer ourselves as a resource based on our connections and experience in the community, as well as our deep subject matter expertise. Please see our attached support letter.
			Erin Seem	
			Isabel Merel	
			Jeffrey Chung	
			Jessica Bermejo	The right to a free public K-12 education — regardless of immigration status — is protected by the U.S. Constitution and affirmed by the Supreme Court in Plyler v. Doe. Federal law requires us to do everything in our power to ensure that all children have access to public education. Motion 20 reinforces LA County's commitment to that responsibility. Recent federal immigration actions targeting students only create fear and unnecessary barriers to education. Item 20 helps ensure that every student — no matter their background — has the resources and support they need to keep learning and stay safe in school. We urge the Board to pass this motion without delay. Thank you.
			JESSICA WOLF	
			Katherine A Mellinger	
			Kyle Troxell	
			Lexie Dolan	

As of: 5/6/2025 1:00:06 PM



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20.		Favor	Liliana Debonis	
			Linda Ocampo	Please support
			Mariah Taback	
			Natasha G Lahera	
			Noa D Wilding	
			Shauna Espinoza	
			Stephanie Shipley	
			Vanessa De Leon	
			vanessa melendrez	<p>Good morning Board, my name is Vanessa and I am with PWC and IRLA. I MOVE that the Board of Supervisors request the Superintendent of the Los Angeles County Office of Education, in partnership with the Office of Immigrant Affairs, to:</p> <p>Survey all school districts in the County to determine which have adopted alternative instruction options, provide Know Your Rights, presentations to students, parents, and staff as well as offering mental health support services; Ensure that Know Your Rights presentations and outreach materials are provided in a culturally, language appropriate manner Report back to the Board in 14 days in writing with a plan to ensure students across all County school districts have access to alternative learning options and Know Your Rights. Report back to the Board, in 14 days in writing with data on Employee Assistance Service for Education (EASE) and LACOE's Mental Health Unit program utilization rates (laycos) I urge the Board to pass this urgent motion.</p> <p>I know we are worried about taking kids out of school but in the mean time while we are searching for solutions to this please provide students with a safe to learn while we learn better on how to secure schools from incidents like this in the future.</p>
			Yadi -	The County should also implement stronger student and family privacy protections. This will help give students more sense of security that they will be safe when going to school and getting an education.
		Oppose	Brenda Gergely	
			Dennis Cregg	THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES IS BROKE
			Merrilyn Romen	
			Sarah Sulentor	
		Item Total	32	

Grand Total			32	
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May 5, 2025

Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles, California
Kenneth Hanh Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012



***Re: Letter in SUPPORT of Ensuring Access to Education for Immigrant Students
Agenda Item 20, Recommendation Submitted by Supervisors Solis and Mitchell***

For the Board's May 6, 2025 Meeting, Agenda Item No. 20

To the Distinguished Members of the Board of Supervisors:

On behalf of Bet Tzedek Legal Services, we write in strong support of Agenda Item No. 20, the recommendation entitled Ensuring Access to Education for Immigrant Students. We appreciate the Board's intention of ensuring education access for immigrant students and would like to offer ourselves as a resource based on our connections and experience in the community, as well as our deep subject matter expertise.

Bet Tzedek has Deep Experience Striving for Justice for Our Immigrant Communities

For over 50 years, Bet Tzedek has provided free legal services and counsel to low-income residents of Los Angeles in a comprehensive range of practice areas including Elder/Caregiver Law, Employment Rights, Guardianships, Health, Holocaust Reparations, Housing, Public Benefits and Impact Litigation. An important part of this work includes Bet Tzedek representing undocumented minors in probate courts seeking the appointment of a legal guardian and in obtaining the predicate findings related to Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS); we also assist in their immigration matters, filing affirmative petitions as well as providing representation in removal proceedings. Additionally, Bet Tzedek also contracts with the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services to provide immigration representation to foster youth eligible for SIJS. Lastly, Bet Tzedek also provides private and legal aid attorneys throughout the state with training, mentoring, and technical assistance on the probate legal guardianship process and SIJS law to increase the capacity and quality of legal services committed to the population eligible for SIJS.

Agenda Item 20 is an Important Step in Promoting Education Access for All Students

We support Agenda Item No. 20. This is an important step in encouraging education access for all students, particularly given California's history. For example, in 1998, Prop 227 passed by a wide margin, which mandated English-only education in all California classrooms and essentially prohibited students from immigrant homes from leveraging their existing language skills to access classroom contact. While Prop 227 was overturned by voters in 2016, its impact can still be felt in the lack of resources and in the bilingual teacher shortage. In addition, LAUSD recently reversed its previously

established “sanctuary schools” policy, concerned that using that label could make it a target of the federal administration. This puts the responsibility on individual schools to understand and communicate their constitutional rights to students, families, and federal law enforcement.

Accordingly, we support the call for a 2-week survey of school districts in the County and a report back with plans on alternative learning options, Know Your Rights trainings, technical assistance plans, mental health service plans, and other alternative instruction plans to support educational access for immigrant students. In particular, we would like the report back to highlight alternative instruction options and Know Your Rights education, as these options are concrete steps to being able to more meaningfully access education for all students in these turbulent times, especially for immigrant students and their parents, who face a real possibility of detention or deportation through merely the simple act of going to school. And, we urge the County to analyze the report and translate the recommendations into meaningful action to ensure educational access for all students.

Bet Tzedek Would Like to be a Resource for the County in Immigration Justice Issues

Accordingly, we would like to offer ourselves as a resource. Bet Tzedek regularly partners with individual schools, school districts, library systems, municipalities, and other public institutions to provide legal education in response to the ever-changing immigration policies and enforcement actions. Additionally, we regularly meet with school children who are worried about their families and themselves given the anti-immigrant rhetoric and removal efforts from the federal administration. We provide Know Your Rights presentations to arm minors with critical information about interactions with immigration enforcement agents and how to exercise their rights therein. Similarly, we provide Family Preparedness Presentations to educate undocumented and mixed-status families with information about real, tangible options should one or both parents be detained or removed. Relatedly, we hold workshops to assist parents in drafting and executing legal documents to effectuate their plans of care for their children, should the need arise as a result of deportation. In this year alone, we have been approached by LAUSD and many individual schools for Know Your Rights Presentation support, and we are always happy to provide technical assistance or insight on any immigration justice issues.

Bet Tzedek appreciates this Board’s intention to address immigrant justice and educational access for immigrant students and encourages a continuation of this valuable work. Passing this recommendation is an important step forward in creating a more equitable and effective response to ensuring access to education for immigrant students in Los Angeles County, and we encourage the Board’s support of this recommendation. California’s future depends in large part on our children and, as such, protecting them and working to provide equitable educational access is an investment in our tomorrow.

Sincerely,

Emily Chong

Staff Attorney
Impact Advocacy Project
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