

AGN. NO. _____

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS LINDSEY P. HORVATH
AND HOLLY J. MITCHELL

July 15, 2025

Support for Senate Bill 627 (Weiner): No Secret Police Act

In Los Angeles County, we have seen federal immigration agents wearing masks and balaclavas as they conduct raids in our communities, while also covering their badges and identification numbers.¹ This practice spreads fear throughout the community as members of the public cannot verify who these individuals are or if they have any cause to be present or participating in the actions they are undertaking. When officers cover their faces, badges, names, and other identifying information, they evade accountability and circumvent the transparency required to maintain the public's trust.

The power of our law enforcement entities at all levels is derived from the trust of communities which they are intended to serve. Masking their faces while conducting operations with no discernable reason undermines the public's trust in law enforcement – making it less likely people will report crimes and testify in court, and more likely that communities will continue to turn away from law enforcement in times of need.

¹ Hesson, Ted, et al. "Los Angeles ICE Raids Fuel Controversy over Masked Agents." *Reuters*, 9 June 2025, www.reuters.com/world/us/los-angeles-ice-raids-fuel-controversy-over-masked-agents-2025-06-09/. Accessed 17 June 2025.

MOTION

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In response, Senator Scott Weiner of San Francisco County and Senator Jesse Arreguin of Alameda County introduced Senate Bill (SB) 627, the “No Secret Police Act.” Their legislation would prohibit law enforcement officers from wearing any mask or personal disguise while interacting with the public in the performance of their duties. The bill defines law enforcement officers and any officer of a local, state, or federal law enforcement agency, or any person acting on behalf of a local, state, or federal law enforcement agency. By supporting this legislation, we can bring transparency and accountability back to these communities and strengthen the public’s trust in our government.

WE, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the County’s Sacramento Advocates to support Senate Bill 627, and further direct the Chief Executive Office’s Legislative Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations branch to send a five-signature letter in support of the bill to Senator Scott Weiner.

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