

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR HILDA L. SOLIS

July 15, 2025

Promoting Economic Resilience: Supporting the Small Business Interruption Fund and Launching Cash Aid for Impacted Families

For nearly 2 months, federal immigration tactics have led to scenes of horror displayed in streets across Los Angeles County. Communities across the County have been terrorized by masked individuals in plain clothing and unmarked cars taking individuals from their workplaces, leaving their families wondering where they are and when they will see their loved one again.

With nearly 1 in 5 Angelenos being either undocumented or living with someone who is, the impact of the Trump Administration’s hard lined immigration tactics runs deep through the culture and roots of Los Angeles County’s neighborhoods and workforce. The streets in Los Angeles County are visually emptier with many workers afraid to leave their homes. Several industry sectors, such as construction, farming and hospitality are critical to the backbone of the nation’s economy yet are seeing some of the heaviest economic impact due to the fact their workforce is composed of a significant number of immigrants. Loss of workforce, loss of wages, and loss of foot traffic in small businesses due to the upheaval caused by immigration enforcement will impact our economy.

Additionally, families impacted by recent ICE arrests have seen vehicles, vending carts, food trucks, tools and work equipment abandoned in public spaces and on their clients’ properties.¹ Community advocates and law enforcement are scrambling to

¹ <https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2025-07-08/ice-abandoned-items>

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Mitchell	_____
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identify owners and return these items, often after crucial hours have passed, adding significant emotional and financial strain. These items, often essential to family income and daily life, are abandoned due to forced detentions, not neglect. Charging fees, risking theft of equipment, or risking impoundment would compound hardship on already traumatized households, undermining community resilience and economic stability.

The end of the Trump Administration's aggression towards immigrants has maintained a focus on worksites with no end in sight, thus a continued commitment to funding the small business interruption fund servicing the entire County is essential to help avoid permanently shuttered businesses. Although this interruption fund is currently in progress due to the passage of Item 51-C in the June 17, 2025, County Board of Supervisors meeting, the broad need will require additional funding. It is also essential that the County limits the negative financial impact detained immigrants, and their families, might incur due to their equipment or tools being left behind.

Since individuals are being taken by immigration officials abruptly and primarily in workplaces, it is difficult for businesses to disburse earned income to persons that have been deported, and for both detained and deported individuals to access earned income when they need it the most. Although laws and processes currently exist to ensure earned income makes its way to "unlocatable workers" or their beneficiaries, many people are unaware of their rights regardless of immigration status and how to access their own earned income after deportation or how their families can also retrieve their funds.

Since it is unclear for how long the intense, constant immigration raids will continue, it is pertinent that the County helps ensure workers afraid to return to work, and families that have lost their bread winner to deportation, have cash assistance from a fund that is available long-term. Such a fund would help curb a potential rise in homelessness and provide a financial bridge to families impacted by the raids.

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I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors suspend Section 22.1 of the Rules of the Board for the limited purpose of considering this motion.

I, FURTHER, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct:

1. The Chief Executive Office (CEO) to report back to the Board during the Supplemental Budget phase with potential funding sources to sustain and expand the Small Business Interruption Fund for small businesses impacted by ongoing federal immigration activity, including, but not limited to, Care First Community Investment funds equivalent to the \$5.5M the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) applied for on behalf of this fund and to the extent consistent with the CFCI Advisory Committee's recommendation process, and philanthropic investments.
2. The Department of Consumer and Business Affairs and its Office of Immigrant Affairs (DCBA-OIA), in consultation with CEO, County Counsel, Treasurer and Tax Collector, Department of Public Works (DPW), Internal Services Department, and any other relevant County departments and community partners to report back in writing within the next 30 days with recommendations and an assessment of the feasibility of establishing a program to retrieve, safeguard, and return equipment or belongings left behind in unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County by individuals detained by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) or other federal agencies engaged in immigration enforcement actions. The report back should also include an analysis of operational, outreach, and resource needs, and include the following but not limited to:
 - a. Engage faith-based organizations and assess the viability of partnering with faith-based organizations, mutual aid groups, and other trusted

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- community-based organizations to safely intake, inventory, and store property found at or near the site of detainment.
 - b. Explore the development of a centralized, user-friendly online portal that logs property and equipment by location, date found, and general description for family members or interested parties to locate the items discovered and reclaim the property.
 - c. If any identifying information is found with the property (i.e. business license records, address, etc.) assess the feasibility of logging such information and issuing notice to the last known address.
 - d. Outreach widely on the availability of the resource.
 - e. Include a plan to conduct wide-reaching, multilingual outreach to ensure impacted communities are aware of the resource and how to access it.
3. The DCBA-OIA and DCBA Office of Labor Equity, in collaboration with County Counsel, to:
- a. Develop and launch an outreach campaign in collaboration with relevant Community partners that focuses on educating impacted communities on their rights, the process for recovering withheld or unpaid wages, available County and community resources to assist in navigating financial recovery post-deportation, and
 - b. Report back in writing within 30 days on the feasibility of using an existing County hotline to accept international collect calls in order to reunite earnings with deported individuals to serve as an access point for deported Los Angeles County residents seeking to recover earnings or coordinate with family members, representatives, or appropriate agencies to reclaim financial resources owed to them.

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4. DCBA-OIA, in partnership with CEO's Center for Strategic Partnerships and DEO, to:
 - a. Implement a fundraising plan and launch a cash aid fund within the next 30 days for impacted workers and their families with flexible financial assistance in the short, medium and long-term. The ongoing campaign should aim to gather donations from philanthropy and other sources. The cash aid program should utilize data from the [Economic Impact Report](#) to prioritize impacted workers residing in unincorporated areas and small cities.
 - b. Identify gaps in food delivery and food pantries for vulnerable communities impacted by the rampant deportations and develop and implement a plan to address those gaps within the next 30 days.

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