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September 17, 2025

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
State Capital
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Newsom:

We write in support of SB 274 (Cervantes), which would strengthen Statewide safeguards on Automated License Plate Readers (ALPR) by capping retention of non-hit plate reads at sixty days, mandating robust authentication, annual State Department of Justice audits, and yearly privacy training for users.

ALPRs in Los Angeles County are managed and operated by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and remain a powerful investigative tool for recovering stolen vehicles, identifying violent crime suspects, and finding missing persons. Yet, its public support depends on confidence that the sensitive location data it generates will never be repurposed for impermissible civil immigration enforcement.

State law enforcement agencies have repeatedly shared license plate reader data with federal immigration authorities, despite State laws intended to prevent such cooperation. The database of queries collected by Oakland Privacy revealed that law enforcement agencies across Southern California shared information from automated ALPR with federal agents, including Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). Among the ten law enforcement agencies that conducted searches on behalf of ICE, six are in Los Angeles County.

In Los Angeles County, residents depend on cars for nearly every aspect of daily life, and people must feel safe traveling without fear that their movements are being tracked, stored, or shared in ways that violate their privacy. ALPR data sharing incidents reignite fear in immigrant communities and further erode public trust in public safety institutions.

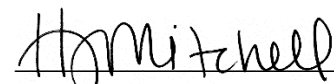
The California legislature has been proactive in enacting legislation. For example, [SB 54](#) (2017, Chapter 495) bars local agencies from assisting with most civil-immigration actions, and [SB 34](#) (2015, Chapter 532) requires every ALPR operator to publish a public usage and privacy policy, train users, and log every query and export.

SB 274 would provide further protections for our vulnerable populations.

Thank you for your leadership on this important matter.

Sincerely,


HILDA L. SOLIS
Supervisor, First District


HOLLY J. MITCHELL
Supervisor, Second District


LINDSEY P. HORVATH
Supervisor, Third District


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Supervisor, Fourth District