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DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF THE SAN FERNANDO VALLEY

August 7, 2021

**RE: DPSFV Supports AB 937 (Carrillo) — The VISION Act**

Representatives of the Honorable San Fernando Valley Delegation:

On behalf of the Democratic Party of the San Fernando Valley (DPSFV), we are pleased to report that our Executive Board voted to support AB 937, the VISION Act (Voiding Inequality and Seeking Inclusion for Our Immigrant Neighbors). The VISION Act would protect community members who have already been deemed eligible for release from being funneled by local jails and our state prison system to immigration detention for deportation. The VISION Act takes urgent and necessary strides toward ensuring that our local and state tax dollars are not used to funnel immigrants into inhumane conditions in immigration detention, violate Constitutional protections, and separate immigrant families and communities. We urge you to support this important piece of legislation.

DPSFV was founded in 1978 and is chartered by the Los Angeles County Democratic Central Committee. Our organization is the coordinating body for a coalition of twenty-one Democratic Clubs located in the six Assembly Districts (38, 39, 43, 45, 46, and 50) which are wholly or partially in the San Fernando Valley.

California's punitive carceral system unjustly and disproportionately harms Black, Latinx, Indigenous, and Asian and Pacific Islander American communities. The California legislature and voters have demonstrated a strong commitment to reforming our criminal justice system and ending mass incarceration. However, the state's role in funneling California residents to the custody of ICE undercuts our progress towards a more equitable society, and unfairly targets immigrants and refugees.

When California's jails and prisons voluntarily and unnecessarily transfer immigrant and refugee community members eligible for release from state or local custody to ICE for immigration detention and deportation purposes, they subject these community members to double punishment and perpetual trauma. Community members can be incarcerated by ICE, often for prolonged periods and with no right to bail, and deported--permanently banishing them from the country, from their families, their homes, their livelihoods.

California should not subject community members to double punishment, and disregard their record of rehabilitation, stable reentry plans, and community support, purely because they are refugees or immigrants. Ending ICE transfers in California is a necessary step in fulfilling the state's commitment to ending racial injustice and mass incarceration.

We strongly urge you to support AB 937.

Please note that DPSFV will be tracking this bill as it travels through the Legislature. Your voting record will be noted and may be considered should you ever seek our endorsement. Your office is always welcome to contact DPSFV if you have any questions.

Sincerely and respectfully,



Chair Sean M. Rivas  
Democratic Party of the San Fernando Valley

cc: Assembly Members Rivas, Friedman, Gabriel, Nazarian, Bloom, and Carrillo (author)  
Senators Hertzberg, Portantino, Stern, and Allen

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