

REPORT OF THE CHIEF LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

DATE: August 7, 2025

TO: Honorable Members of the Rules, Elections, and Intergovernmental Relations Committee

FROM: Sharon M. Tso
Chief Legislative Analyst

Sharon M. Tso
SMT

Council File No. 25-0002-S66

Assignment No. 25-07-0577

SUBJECT: Resolution (Hernandez – Soto-Martínez) to SUPPORT Senate Bill 48 (Gonzalez)

CLA RECOMMENDATION: Adopt Resolution (Hernandez – Soto-Martínez) to include in the City’s 2025-2026 State Legislative Program, SUPPORT for Senate Bill (SB) 48 (Gonzalez) to prohibit local educational agencies from disclosing personal information or allowing immigration agents to enter school sites without a valid warrant or court order.

SUMMARY

Resolution (Hernandez – Soto-Martínez), introduced on July 1, 2025, states that the current administration rescinded a previous policy that protected “sensitive locations,” including hospitals, places of worship, courthouses, and schools from immigration enforcement. The Resolution states that currently pending in the California Senate is SB 48, which would prohibit school districts, county offices of education, charter schools, and their personnel from granting immigration authorities access to nonpublic areas of a school site, questioning students, or conducting a search, unless presented with a valid judicial warrant or court order. The Resolution further states if an immigration authority has a valid warrant or court order, local educational agency staff must request from them valid identification, a written statement of purpose, and copies of the documents, as well as notify the school administrator before school site access is granted to the immigration authority. The Resolution states that SB 48 would also prohibit local education agency staff from disclosing any education records or information about a student, their family, or any school employee to an immigration authority without a valid warrant or court order. In addition, SB 48 would require the California Attorney General to issue model policies for K-12 schools to implement these protections and reimburse school districts for any State-mandated costs. The Resolution states that SB 48 would help safeguard students, parents, educators, and school staff from family separation and intimidation by immigration authorities. The Resolution requests that the City support SB 48.

BACKGROUND

In January 2025, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) issued new directives to rescind previous sensitive location policies and remove rules regarding where immigration laws could be enforced. Previously, DHS prohibited immigration enforcement actions at “sensitive locations,” which included schools, hospitals, places of worship, religious ceremonies, and public demonstrations. The January 2025 directives authorize immigration agents to make their own determinations as to where immigration enforcement actions can occur. Recent reports indicate that immigration enforcement actions have occurred at local schools and universities.

Existing law states that it is the policy of the State of California to ensure that all individuals in public schools have equal rights and opportunities, free from discrimination based on disability, gender, gender

identity, gender expression, nationality, race or ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, and immigration status. Existing law also prohibits local educational agencies (LEAs) from collecting information or documents regarding the citizenship or immigration status of students or their family members. Further, existing law requires superintendents of school districts or county offices of education and principals of charter schools to report to their respective governing body any requests for information or access to a school site by immigration authorities.

While current law provides guidance for schools and students regarding immigration enforcement actions at school sites, it does not explicitly prohibit school administrators from granting immigration authorities access to school sites and students without the necessary documentation. SB 48 would amend the State's Education Code to prohibit LEAs and their employees from granting permission to immigration authorities without valid judicial warrants or court orders. SB 48 would also ensure protocols for school officials to request certain documentation, such as identification and written statements of purpose from immigration authorities who have valid warrants and court orders, before granting them any school or student access. Protocols for responding to immigration authorities who do not have valid warrants or court orders would also be established.

SB 48 would also require the California Attorney General to publish updated guidance for K-12 schools on responding to immigration issues at school sites. In December 2024, the California Attorney General preemptively released updated guidance for K-12 schools on how to respond to immigration issues, and published "Know Your Educational Rights" information to students and their families in January 2025. SB 48 specifies an urgency measure to ensure that schools continue to provide children and their families guaranteed access to school sites and retain attendance-based funding.


According to a July 2025 analysis of SB 48 by the State Assembly Committee on Education, the bill's requirements could create a reimbursable State mandate and require the development of policies, procedures, and training for school staff and faculty to respond to requests from immigration authorities. The Assembly Committee estimated that the one-time General Fund costs would be in the low millions. After the release of the Governor's Revised Budget in May 2025, the Department of Finance and Legislative Analyst Office projected multi-year budget deficits ranging from \$10 to \$20 billion through Fiscal Year 2028-29.

DEPARTMENTS NOTIFIED

Community Investment for Families Department

BILL STATUS

12/16/24	Introduced
1/29/25	Referred to Senate Committees on Education and Public Safety
4/2/25	Passed, re-referred to Committee on Public Safety
4/3/25	Re-referred to Committee on Rules
4/9/25	Re-referred to Committee on Judiciary
4/30/25	Passed, re-referred to Committee on Appropriations
5/23/25	Passed
6/2/25	Passed, urgency clause adopted, ordered to the Assembly
6/9/25	Referred to Assembly Committees on Education and Judiciary
7/3/25	Passed, re-referred to Committee on Judiciary
7/14/25	July 15 first hearing canceled at the request of author



Susan Oh
Analyst

Attachment: Resolution (Hernandez – Soto-Martínez)

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state or federal governmental body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council; and,

WHEREAS, the Trump Administration’s aggressive immigration policies have created fear and uncertainty for many immigrant families, particularly in safe spaces such as schools; and

WHEREAS, in January 2025, the Trump administration rescinded a policy established by the Biden administration that protected “sensitive locations,” which are primarily hospitals, places of worship, courthouses, and schools, from immigration enforcement; and

WHEREAS, currently pending in the State legislature, Senate Bill 48, the *Safe Access to Schools Act* (Gonzalez), would prohibit school districts, county offices of education, or charter schools and their personnel, from granting immigration authorities access to nonpublic areas of a school site, question students, or conduct a search, unless presented with a valid judicial warrant or court order; and

WHEREAS, under SB 48, if an immigration authority *does* present a valid judicial warrant or court order, the bill would require that the local educational agency staff request valid identification, a written statement of purpose, retain copies of the documents, and notify the designated school administrator before granting access to immigration authorities; and

WHEREAS, however, when an immigration authority *does not* present a judicial warrant or court order, the bill would require the local educational agency staff to notify the school administrator, deny access to immigration authorities, and make a reasonable effort to document and witness the denial; and

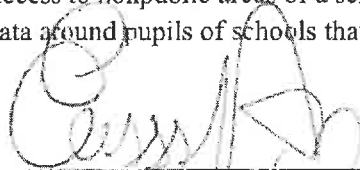
WHEREAS, SB 48 would also prohibit the local educational agency staff from disclosing, either verbally or in writing, any education records or information about a student, their family, or any school employee to an immigration authority without a valid judicial warrant or court order; and

WHEREAS, the bill further requires the California Attorney General to issue model policies to assist K–12 schools to implement these protections, and requires reimbursements for school districts for any state-mandated costs, where possible; and

WHEREAS, SB 48 will help safeguard students, parents, educators, and school staff from family separation and intimidation from immigration authorities to ensure schools can remain trusted, protected spaces for learning and community support; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that by adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2025-26 State Legislative Program, SUPPORT for Senate Bill 48 (Gonzalez) to amend the Education Code to disallow access to nonpublic areas of a school site to federal immigration enforcement agents, and ensure the protection of data around pupils of schools that federal immigration enforcement agents request access.

PRESENTED BY:


EUNISSES HERNANDEZ
Councilmember, 1st District

SECONDED BY:



ORIGINAL


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