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MOUNTAIN VIEW, CA

California Heats Up As Human Rights are Put On ICE

Sacramento – During the California Legislature’s sweltering summer break, public servants like Nanette Barragan (44th District) are taking the opportunity to investigate possible human rights violations. Barragan recently investigated her fifth ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) facility this year. Yet few California representatives have come forward to champion their constituents’ concerns regarding SB 276, a vaccine mandate bill that will remove their human right to a trusted doctor patient relationship and injure medically vulnerable children should it pass.

Barragan, who serves on the House Committee on Homeland Security, was recently interviewed by the LA Times about her visit to a border facility, where she covertly shot videos and tweeted them, bearing witness to the conditions found there. She told the LA Times the Border Patrol would not allow her to talk to the migrant men, but “(the men) tried to scream through the door.”

“Parents of medically vulnerable children are screaming through the metaphorical closed door of bad public policy,” said Christina Hildebrand, President of the medical-rights non-profit A Voice For Choice Advocacy (AVFCA). “What makes our media, our agencies, our legislators, any different from ICE or any other allegedly abusive organization when there is an across the board refusal to examine the scientific evidence that a select segment of the population is vulnerable to injury from interventions like vaccination and put measures in place to protect that minority?”

As written, SB 276 would stifle doctor-patient relationships, giving state agencies the final word on medically vulnerable children’s access to necessary medical exemptions from vaccination. SB 276 is in direct conflict with the “broad medical exemption” promised by the authors of SB 277. They promised fellow legislators in amendments that medical exemptions would be protected, they would be at the discretion of the licensed doctor, the state would “not go after doctors” who wrote them, exemptions would not be restricted to CDC contraindications, but would consider family history, genetics and relevant current research to qualify. SB 276, as currently written, will remove these criteria and put vulnerable children in the position of having to choose between the advice of their doctor or disregarding it, putting them in harm’s way in order to go to school.

Parents, who are witnesses to their own children’s needs, want to know what their representatives are doing to ensure they vote with the will of the people when they reconvene. Surely if ICE facilities can be inspected in person, representatives can take time to read the details of SB 276, meet with their constituents, and make an educated vote to uphold the doctor-patient relationship and ensure medical exemptions remain robust and take the latest science into consideration. Issues legislators should consider with the current wording of SB 276 bill can be found here
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