

April 10, 2025

The Honorable Caroline Menjivar Chair, Senate Health Committee 1021 O Street, Room 3310 Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: SB 81 (Arreguín) — SUPPORT

Dear Senator Menjivar:

Caring for the sick and healing the injured — without regard to a patient's ethnicity, national origin, or citizenship status — is the mission of all hospitals. There is a special trust between patients and health care providers, and no one should ever be afraid to seek care for themselves or their loved ones because they fear being deported.

That's why the California Hospital Association (CHA), on behalf of more than 400 hospitals and health systems, supports Senate Bill (SB) 81. This important legislation would help reassure patients and their families that hospitals are safe and welcoming spaces for all who need care, regardless of immigration status.

Specifically, SB 81 would strengthen protections against unlawful enforcement actions, ensuring that hospitals remain focused on their core mission — providing compassionate, high-quality care to every patient who walks through their doors.

CHA appreciates the author's leadership and looks forward to further collaboration on these important issues.

For these reasons, CHA requests your "AYE" vote on SB 81.

Sincerely,

Vanessa Gonzalez

Vice President, State Advocacy

Vanessa Gonzalez

cc: The Honorable Jesse Arreguín
The Honorable Members of the Senate Health Committee
Jen Flory, Principal Consultant, Senate Health Committee
Tim Conaghan and Joe Parra, Consultants, Senate Republican Caucus