

Submitter: Josh Reagan MD

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1570

Thank you for allowing me to testify in support of Senate Bill 1570.

As a family physician I am watching first-hand what is happening to our immigrant communities, especially after events happen like the one outside Adventist Medical Center, where a family was trying to take their 7-year-old daughter for medical care and were apprehended by ICE.

It spreads terror, which leaves people in the untenable situation in which they need to balance their personal safety from what appears to currently be a somewhat lawless federal agency against their need for health care, or health care for their children or other family members. This barrier means people will be sicker at presentation to health care systems and will be more likely to need more prolonged hospital stays and be more likely to die. It makes no sense in less the goal is terror and cruelty. This bill would at least help support people already in the health care environment, both workers and patients, any of whom may be immigrants or appear like immigrants, thus getting singled out. It would allow our places of healing to function so that people may heal. Please support Senate Bill 1570 to both maintain our hospitals and clinics as places people can safely heal, and to support all people's rights to try and treat their illnesses.

Thank you for your time and attention,

Josh Reagan MD