



Mar. 27, 2019

Honorable Assemblymember Lorena Gonzalez  
State Capitol, Room 2114  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB-668 Courthouses: Privilege from civil arrest. – SUPPORT**

Dear Assemblymember Gonzalez,

Independent California is a group devoted towards equal rights for all Californians, including those who are undocumented. I am writing today to express our support for AB 668.

Supreme Court Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye has been politely asking ICE for more than a year to keep out of California courthouses to no avail. By outlawing civil arrests at California courthouses, this bill firmly asserts California's autonomy over our own court system and upholds the supremacy of judicial due process over federal immigration enforcement.

We believe that this bill could be strengthened in the way it deals with sovereign immunity. While (based on the bill's findings and declarations), performing civil arrests in violation of this bill's provisions would likely exceed the federal government's power, a federal agent would be shielded from civil action under this bill as long as they *believed* they were acting lawfully. A requirement, for example, to have all law enforcement officials who enter California courthouses sign a statement to the effect that they understand they do not have the legal or constitutional authority to carry out

civil arrests within the courthouse might be helpful in closing the sovereign immunity loophole.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dave Marin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent initial "D" and a stylized "M".

Dave Marin  
Chair of the Board  
Independent California  
[dave.marin@independentca.org](mailto:dave.marin@independentca.org)