

Organizations Opposed to the CLEAR Act and Its Senate Companion

The Clear Law Enforcement for Criminal Alien Removal (CLEAR) Act (H.R. 2671), introduced by Representative Charles Norwood (R-GA), and its Senate counterpart, the Homeland Security Enhancement Act (S. 1906), introduced by Senator Jeff Sessions (R-AL), would require local police to enforce all federal immigration laws or risk further loss of critical funds. This means that local police would now be responsible for determining if a foreign student is in compliance with her visa requirements, or if a worker who cannot immediately produce proof of citizenship or legal residency is in violation of our complicated federal immigration rules. These are the same laws federal immigration agents learn over the course of a 17-week training period.

This legislation would ask local police to get up to speed practically overnight, with no guarantee that their costs will be reimbursed in full. Moreover, local police have indicated in no uncertain terms that getting involved in immigration law enforcement actually undermines their main mission: the prevention and resolution of real crimes. These concerns have been echoed by state and local government officials, community leaders, and others for several years.

Local police departments and associations, local governments, and community advocates have begun to express strong opposition to the bills. A partial list of institutions and organizations that oppose this legislation appears below.

For more information on this legislation, contact the National Immigration Forum at 202.347.0040, x5989 (press) or x5993 (policy), or visit <http://www.immigrationforum.org/currentissues/clear.htm>.

National Immigration Forum, April 2004

State and Local Police Departments

Arizona

Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office
South Tucson Police Department
Yuma County Sheriff's Office

California

Arroyo Grande Police Department
Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
Newark Police Department
Modoc County Sheriff's Office
Salinas Police Department

Florida

North Miami Beach Police Department

Iowa

Des Moines Police Department

Kansas

Kansas City Police Department

Lenexa Police Department

Overland Park Police Department

Maine

Cumberland County Office of the Sheriff

Portland Police Department

Maryland

Baltimore Police Department

Montgomery County Police Department

Massachusetts

Boston Police Department

Lowell Police Department

North Carolina

Cary Police Department

Tennessee

Nashville Metropolitan Police Department

Texas

Bexar County Sheriff's Office

El Paso Sheriff's Department

Washington

Seattle Police Department

Law Enforcement Associations

National

Federal Hispanic Law Enforcement Officers Association

Hispanic American Police Command Officers Association

National Latino Peace Officers Association

State/Local

California Police Chiefs Association

California State Sheriffs' Association

Connecticut Police Chiefs' Association

El Paso Municipal Police Officers' Association

Miami-Dade Chiefs Association

Police Benevolent Association (FL)

State and Local Governments

California

54 members of the California State Legislature
Los Angeles City Council
Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
National City Mayor Nick Inzunza
National City City Council

Connecticut

Danbury Mayor Mark Boughton

Illinois

City of Chicago Alderman George Cardenas, 12th Ward
City of Chicago Alderman Tom Tunney, 44th Ward

Kansas

Unified Government of Wyandotte County

Maryland

Baltimore Mayor Martin O'Malley
Montgomery County Executive Doug Duncan

New Mexico

Governor Bill Richardson

New York

New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg

Ohio

Lorain County Board of Commissioners

Oregon

Attorney General Hardy Myers (section 102)

Texas

Houston Mayor Pro Tem Gordon Quan

Washington, DC

City Council Member Adrian Fenty

Government Associations

Congressional Hispanic Caucus
National Association of Counties
National Conference of State Legislatures
National League of Cities
United States/Mexico Border Counties Coalition

Presidential Candidates (former)

Joseph Lieberman
Wesley Clark

Editorial Boards

Athens (GA) Banner-Herald
Boston Globe
Des Moines Register
Ft. Worth Star-Telegram
Houston Chronicle
Los Angeles Times
The Miami Herald
Palm Springs Desert Sun
San Diego Union-Tribune
Tucson Citizen

Miscellaneous Organizations

Over 320 organizations (nearly 70 national groups and over 250 regional/state/local organizations in 34 states), comprised of domestic violence prevention advocates; conservative ideologues; faith-based groups; civil rights, civil liberties, and human rights watchdogs; immigrants' rights groups; legal services providers and law firms; refugee advocates; health care providers; workers' advocates; labor unions; businesses; counselors; and financial services providers have signed on to letters opposing CLEAR:

National

ACORN
American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC)
American Civil Liberties Union
American Conservative Union and American Conservative Union Foundation
American Immigration Lawyers Association
Americans for Tax Reform
Amnesty International USA
Anti-Defamation League
Arab American Institute
Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund
Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum
Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. (CLINIC)
Church Women United
Church World Service IRP
The Committee for Inter-American Human Rights
Council on American-Islamic Relations
Doctors of the World-USA
Episcopal Migration Ministries (EMM)
Family Violence Prevention Fund
Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL)
Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS)
Hmong National Development
Immigrant Legal Resource Center

Immigrant Women Program of NOW Legal Defense and Education Fund
Immigration and Refugee Services of America
International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission
Jesuit Refugee Service/USA
Labor Council for Latin American Advancement (LCLAA)
Lawyers Committee for Human Rights
Leadership Conference on Civil Rights (LCCR)
Love Sees No Borders
Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service
Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF)
Muslim Public Affairs Council (MPAC)
National Alliance To End Sexual Violence
National Alliance of Vietnamese American Service Agencies
National Asian Pacific American Legal Consortium
National Catholic Association of Diocesan Directors for Hispanic Ministry (NCADDHM)
National Center on Domestic and Sexual Violence
National Center on Poverty Law
National Coalition Against Domestic Violence
National Coalition for Asian Pacific American Community Development
National Coalition for Haitian Rights
National Council of La Raza
National Employment Law Project
National Immigration Forum
National Immigration Law Center
National Immigration Project of the National Lawyers Guild
National Korean American Service and Education Consortium
National Network for Immigrant and Refugee Rights
National Organization of Sisters of Color Ending Sexual Assault (SCESA)
National Organization for Women (NOW)
Network in Solidarity with the People of Guatemala (NISGUA)
Organization of Chinese Americans
People For the American Way
The Puerto Rican Legal Defense and Education Fund
Service Employees International Union (SEIU), AFL-CIO, CLC
SHARE Foundation
Sikh Mediawatch and Resource Task Force (SMART)
Social Welfare Action Alliance
Southeast Asia Resource Action Center (SEARAC)
Stop-Traffic
Tahirih Justice Center
UNITE!
United Food and Commercial Workers International Union (UFCW)
United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
World Relief

Regional/State/Local

Alabama

Hispanic Interest Coalition of Alabama

Arizona

Addiction Services, P.C.
Border Action Network
Border Watch
Florence Immigrant and Refugee Rights Project
Tempe Hispanic Forum

California

ACLU of Southern California
American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee, Los Angeles and Orange County Chapter
Asian Law Alliance
Asian Law Caucus (San Francisco)
Asian Pacific American Legal Center of Southern California (Los Angeles)
Asian & Pacific Islander Institute on Domestic Violence (San Francisco)
Asian Pacific Islander Legal Outreach (San Francisco)
Asian Pacific Policy and Planning Council
Bay Area Immigrant Rights Coalition
Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Santa Rosa
Catholic Charities Refugee and Immigrant Services—San Diego
Catholic Charities of San Jose
Central American Resource Center (CARECEN)—Los Angeles
Child Care Law Center (San Francisco)
Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking (CAST) (Los Angeles)
Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles (CHIRLA)
Community United Against Violence (San Francisco)
Darin M. Camarena Health Centers, Inc.
East Bay Asian Local Development Corporation
East San Jose Community Law Center
Filipino Civil Rights Advocates (Oakland)
Filipinos for Affirmative Action (Oakland)
Immigration Law Project, La Raza Centro Legal, Inc. (San Francisco)
International Institute of the East Bay
International Institute of San Francisco
Korean American Coalition to End Domestic Abuse (Oakland)
Korean Resource Center of Los Angeles (KRC)
Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights of the San Francisco Bay Area
Migration Policy and Resource Center/Occidental College, Los Angeles
Riley Center: Services for Battered Women and their Children (San Francisco)
Sexual Assault Crisis Agency (SACA)
Shimtuh: Korean Domestic Violence Program of the Korean Community Center of the
East Bay
South Asian Network

Colorado

9to5 Colorado
Boulder County Safehouse
Center for Justice, Peace and Environment
Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence (Denver)

El Centro Amistad
Fuerza Latina (Fort Collins)
Los Compañeros (San Juan Citizens Alliance)
Rape Awareness and Assistance Program (Denver)
Rights for All People/Derechos Para Todos
Rocky Mountain Peace and Justice Center

Connecticut

Catholic Charities Migration and Refugee Services—Hartford

District of Columbia

AYUDA Inc.
Break The Chain Campaign
Capital Area Immigrants' Rights Coalition
CARECEN-DC (Central American Resource Center)
Washington Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs
Women Empowered Against Violence, Inc. (WEAVE)

Florida

Catholic Charities of Orlando, Inc.
Coalition of Immokalee Workers (Immokalee)
Diocese of Orlando, Respect Life Office
The Farmworker Association of Florida, Inc.
Florida Council Against Sexual Violence (Tallahassee)
Florida Immigrant Advocacy Center (FIAC)
GALATA, Inc. (Florida City)
Latino Leadership, Inc.
The Law Firm of M. Thomas Lobasz, P.A.
Office for Farmworker Ministry

Georgia

African Immigrant Communities Leadership Initiatives/US (Columbus)
Immigration Services of Catholic Social Services—Atlanta
Raksha Inc. (Atlanta)

Hawaii

Catholic Charities Community and Immigrant Services
Na Loio - Immigrant Rights & Public Interest Legal Center (Honolulu)

Illinois

Alivio Medical Center
Asian American Institute (Chicago)
Dominican Literacy Center
Heartland Alliance for Human Needs & Human Rights (Chicago)
Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (Chicago)
The Immigration Project (Granite City)
Korean American Resource & Cultural Center (KRCC)
Latinos Progresando (Chicago)
Latino Youth, Inc.

Metropolitan Family Services, Family Violence Intervention Program (Chicago)
Midwest Immigrant & Human Rights Center (Chicago)
Peregrinos por la Dignidad

Iowa

Asian Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (ACADVSA)
Assault Care Center Extending Shelter (Ames)
Catholic Charities, Domestic Violence/Sexual A.P. (Council Bluffs)
Cedar Valley Friends of the Family (Waverly)
Centers Against Abuse and Sexual Assault (Spencer)
Clinton YWCA, Domestic Violence/Sexual A.R.C. (Clinton)
Committee of the Immigrant Rights Network of Clarion, Iowa
Committee of the Immigrant Rights Network of Des Moines, Iowa
Committee of the Immigrant Rights Network of Dubuque, Iowa
Committee of the Immigrant Rights Network of Ottumwa, Iowa
Committee of the Immigrant Rights Network of Red Oak, Iowa
Committee of the Immigrant Rights Network of Shenandoah, Iowa
Committee of the Immigrant Rights Network of Sioux City, Iowa
Council Against Domestic Abuse and Sexual Assault (Cherokee)
Council on Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence (Sioux City)
Crisis Center and Women's Shelter (Ottumwa)
Crisis Intervention and Advocacy Program (Adel)
Crisis Intervention Service (Mason City)
Crisis Intervention Services of Mahaska County (Oskaloosa)
Domestic Abuse Prevention Center (Carroll)
The Domestic and Sexual Abuse Resource Center (Decorah)
Domestic/Sexual Assault Outreach Center (Fort Dodge)
Domestic Violence Advocacy Program (Davenport)
Domestic Violence Alternatives/Sexual Assault C. (Marshalltown)
Domestic Violence Education and Shelter (Shenandoah)
Domestic Violence Intervention Program (Iowa City)
The Family Crisis Center of North Iowa (Algona)
Family Crisis Centers of NW Iowa (Sioux Center)
Family Crisis Support Network (Atlantic)
Family Service League Crisis Services (Waterloo)
The Family Violence Center (Des Moines)
Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence
Iowa Coalition Against Sexual Assault Rape and Sexual Assault Program Polk Co. V.S.
(Des Moines)
Rape Victim Advocacy Program (Iowa City)
Riverview Center, Inc. (Dubuque)
Rural Crisis Center: Domestic Violence & S.A.S. (Creston)
Seeds of Hope (Grundy Center)
Sexual Assault/Domestic Abuse Advocacy Program (Muscatine)
Tri-State Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Assault (Keokuk)
Turning Point (Knoxville)
Waypoint Services for Women, Children and Families (Cedar Rapids)
YWCA Domestic Violence Program (Dubuque)
YWCA Domestic Violence Shelter and Sexual A.P. (Burlington)

Kansas

El Centro, Inc.
Kansas Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence
Law Offices of Sarah J. Schlicher (Overland Park)

Louisiana

Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans
Migration and Refugee Services/Catholic Diocese of Lafayette
Office of Justice and Peace/Catholic Diocese of Lafayette

Maine

Family Crisis Services (Portland)
Immigrant Legal Advocacy Project

Maryland

Immigration Outreach Service Center (IOSC)
Migrant and Refugee Cultural Support, Inc. (MIRECS)

Massachusetts

Brazilian Immigrant Center
Brazilian Resources and Services Network
Brazilian Workers Center
Greater Boston Legal Services, on behalf of its clients
Irish Immigration Center
Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy (MIRA) Coalition
Massachusetts Law Reform Institute
Political Asylum/Immigration Representation Project (Boston)
Refugee Immigration Ministry (Malden)
UFCW Local 1445

Michigan

ACCESS (The Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services)
Domestic Violence Project, Inc./SAFE House (Ann Arbor)
Hispanic American Council
Michigan Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence (Okemos)
Michigan Organizing Project (MOP)
Relief After Violent Encounter, Inc. (St. Johns)
Turning Point (Mt. Clemens)
YWCA of Grand Rapids

Minnesota

AFFIRM (The Alliance for Fair Federal Immigration Reform of Minnesota)
Archdiocese of St. Paul & Minneapolis Hispanic Ministry Leadership Team
C.N. Realty
Jewish Community Action
Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights (Minneapolis)
Minnesota Literacy Council
SEIU Minnesota State Council

Waseca Area Neighborhood Service Centre

Mississippi

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Jackson
Catholic Diocese of Jackson
Daughters of Charity
Dominican Sisters
Saint Anne Catholic Church

Missouri

Refugee & Immigration Services, Diocese of Jefferson City

Nebraska

Immigrant Rights Network of Iowa and Nebraska
NE Mexican American Commission
Nebraska Appleseed Center for Law in the Public Interest

New Jersey

American Friends Service Committee Immigrant Rights Program of Newark, NJ
Catholic Community Services, Refugee Resettlement and Immigration Assistance Programs—Newark
El Centro Hispanoamericano (Plainfield)
Migration and Refugee Services/Diocese of Trenton
New Jersey Coalition for Battered Women
New Jersey Immigration Policy Network, Inc.
Wind of the Spirit, Immigrant Resource Center

New Mexico

Catholic Charities of Albuquerque
MANA de Albuquerque (Mexican American National Association of Women)

New York

Alianza Dominicana, Inc.
Asian Americans For Equality, Inc.
CUNY School of Law, Immigrant Initiatives
Cabrini Immigrant Services
Catholic Charities of Rockville Centre
Central American Legal Assistance
Central American Refugee Center
Centro Salvadoreño
Community Board 2 Manhattan
Face to Face
The Forest Hills Community House
Goddard Riverside Community Center
Greater Upstate Law Project (Albany, Rochester and White Plains, NY)
Hotel Employees & Restaurant Employees Union, Local 100
Kids Meeting Kids
Latin American Integration Center
Lesbian and Gay Immigration Rights Task Force (New York)

Lutheran Family and Community Services (New York)
Marymount Manhattan College Institute for Immigrant Concerns
New Immigrant Community Empowerment (NICE) – Jackson Heights
New York Immigration Coalition
New York State Defenders Association
Rockland Immigration Coalition
Safe Horizon (New York City)
Sanctuary for Families (New York City)
Sex Workers Project at the Urban Justice League (New York City)
Young Korean American Service & Education Center (YKASEC)

North Carolina

Center for New North Carolinians
Episcopal Farmworker Ministry
FaithAction
Latino Community Credit Union
Latino Community Development Center
North Carolina Justice and Community Development Center

Ohio

Community Refugee & Immigration Services
En Camino, Migrant and Immigrant Outreach/Diocese of Toledo

Oklahoma

Asian American Community Service Association, Inc.
Domestic Violence Intervention Services, Inc. (Tulsa)
Leblang, Sobel & Ashbaugh, P.L.L.P.

Oregon

ACLU of Oregon
Adelante Mujeres
American Immigration Lawyers Association, Oregon Chapter
Basic Rights Oregon
Bridge City Preparative Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
CAUSA
Center for Environmental Equity
Centro Cultural
Community Alliance of Lane County
Japanese American Citizen League, Portland Chapter
Latino Network
Latinos Unidos Siempre
Network for Immigrant Justice
Northwest Workers' Justice Project
The Oregon Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence (Salem)
Oregon Action
Oregon NOW
Pinos y Campesinos Unidos del Noroeste (PCUN)
Rural Organizing Project
Womenspace

Pennsylvania

CIRCLE - Coalition for Immigrants' Rights at the Community Level (York)
Detention Resource Project (Philadelphia)
Golden Vision Foundation (York)
Lutheran Settlement House (Philadelphia)
Pennsylvania Immigrant & Refugee Women's Network (Enola)
Pennsylvania Immigration Resource Center (York)
Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape (Enola)
PRIME – Ecumenical Commitment to Refugees (Clifton Heights)

Rhode Island

International Institute of Rhode Island, Inc.

Tennessee

Abused Women's Services of The YWCA of Greater Memphis
Garcia Labor Company, Inc.
Highlander Research and Education Center
Iraqi House
Tennessee Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence (Nashville)
Tennessee Immigrant and Refugee Rights Coalition (TIRRC)

Texas

ARCA (Association for Residency and Citizenship of America)
Association for Immigrants' Equality and Freedom
BARCA, Inc.
Border Association for Refugees from Central America (Edinburg)
Catholic Charities of Dallas, Immigration Counseling Services
Catholic Family Service, Inc.
Citizens and Immigrants for Equal Justice (Mesquite)
Concilio de Inmigración
Equal Justice Center
Hines & Leigh, P.C.
School for All
The Texas Civil Rights Project (Austin)
Texas Council on Family Violence

Utah

YWCA of Salt Lake

Vermont

Vermont Network Against Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault (Montpelier)
Vermont Refugee Assistance (Montpelier)

Virginia

Boat People S.O.S. (Falls Church)
The Hispanic Committee of Virginia
Office of Justice and Peace, Catholic Diocese of Richmond
Refugee and Immigration Services, Catholic Diocese of Richmond

Refugee & Immigration Services - Roanoke Office
Tenants' & Workers' Support Committee
Virginia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
Virginia Justice Center for Farm and Immigrant Workers

Washington

Broadview Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing Program (Seattle)
Chinese Cultural Association
Eastside Domestic Violence Program (Bellevue)
El Centro de la Raza
Hate Free Zone Campaign of Washington (Seattle)
King County Coalition Against Domestic Violence (Seattle)
Law Offices of Carol L. Edward & Associates, P.S. (Seattle)
Northwest Immigrant Rights Project (Seattle)
Washington Defender Association's Immigration Project (Seattle)

Wisconsin

La Causa, Inc.
UNIDOS Against Domestic Violence (Madison)
Voces de la Frontera