

# Immigration Town Hall

April 1, 2026



# House Ethics: Congressional vs. Campaign Activity

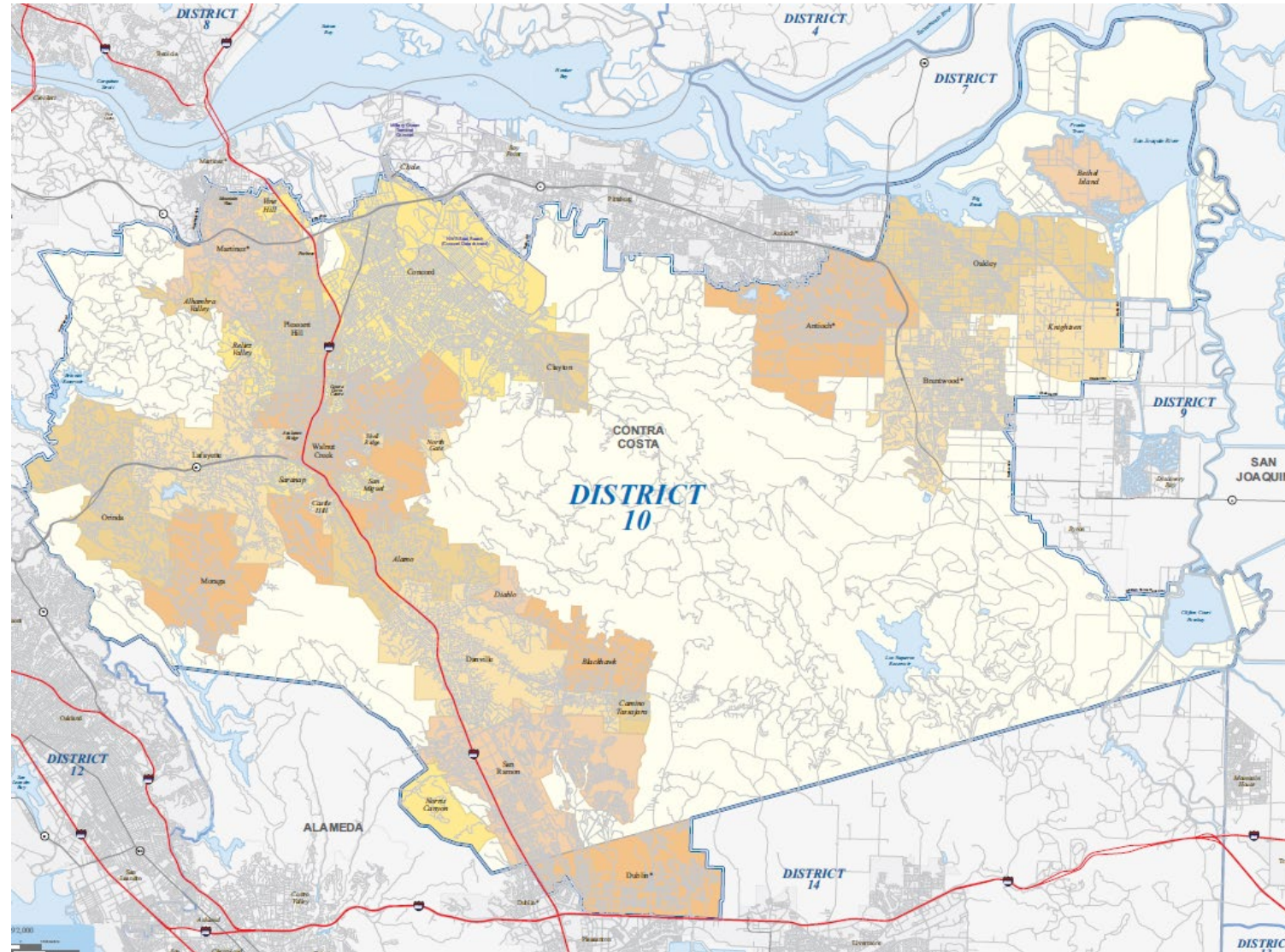
- Members of Congress are governed by the House Code of Official Conduct, which includes standards for whether, how, when, and where Members may engage in campaign activity.
  - This town hall is being hosted in my official capacity as Representative for California's 10<sup>th</sup> District, not as a candidate in a campaign. Therefore, House Rules prevent me from:
    - Solicitating, receiving, and accepting campaign contributions.
    - Making political endorsements.
    - Directing attendees to websites, resources, or events created or operated by a campaign or any campaign-related entity, including political parties and campaign committees.

You can learn more about the House Code of Official Conduct and how it relates to this event here:



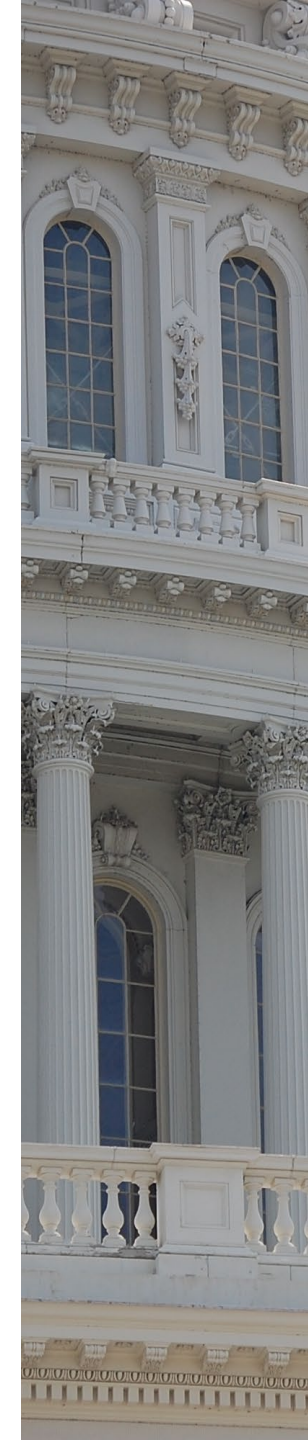
# California's 10<sup>th</sup> Congressional District

CA-10 includes most of Contra Costa and part of Alameda County



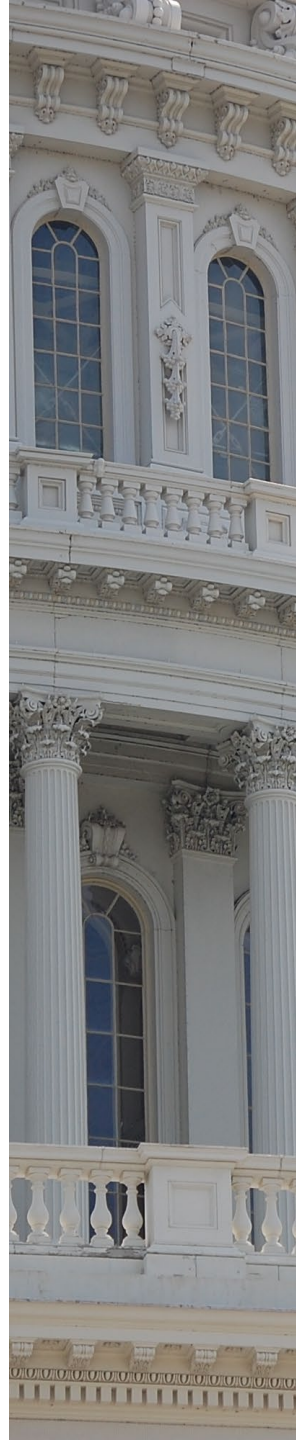
# Committees and Caucuses

- **Ethics Committee – Ranking Member**
- **Education & Workforce Committee**
  - **Ranking Member of the Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions Subcommittee**
  - **Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Development**
- **Transportation & Infrastructure Committee**
  - **Subcommittees on Highways, Aviation, Water Resources and Environment, and Railroads**
- **Member of several important and influential caucuses, including:**
  - **Congressional Progressive Caucus**
  - **Bipartisan Cancer Survivors Caucus – Co-Chair**
  - **Urban Regional Studies Caucus – Co-Chair**
  - **Sustainable Energy and Environment Coalition**
    - **Climate Jobs Task Force – Co-Chair**
  - **Gun Violence Prevention Task Force**
  - **Reproductive Freedom Caucus**



# Past Bipartisan Efforts at Immigration Reform

- In 2013, a bipartisan group of Senators wrote an immigration reform bill that passed the Senate (68-to-32). Provisions included a path to citizenship for undocumented immigrants, reducing visa backlogs, and improved work visa options.
  - The Republican-led House of Representatives under Speaker Boehner refused to act on the bill, and it expired.
- In 2018, Representatives Aguilar and Hurd introduced a bipartisan bill that would protect DACA recipients from deportation and increase border enforcement.
  - Despite strong support, the Republican House did not hold a vote on that bill.
- In February 2024, Republicans and Democrats in the Senate negotiated a comprehensive immigration reform bill that would have strengthened border security and stopped the flow of fentanyl into the U.S. while streamlining the asylum approval process and expanding legal pathways to come to the U.S.
  - The bipartisan bill was killed by then-candidate Trump who admitted that he didn't want the bill to pass so he could continue to use the situation at the border as an election issue.
    - *“I think we killed it. I think it's dead!” – Donald Trump, February 9, 2024*



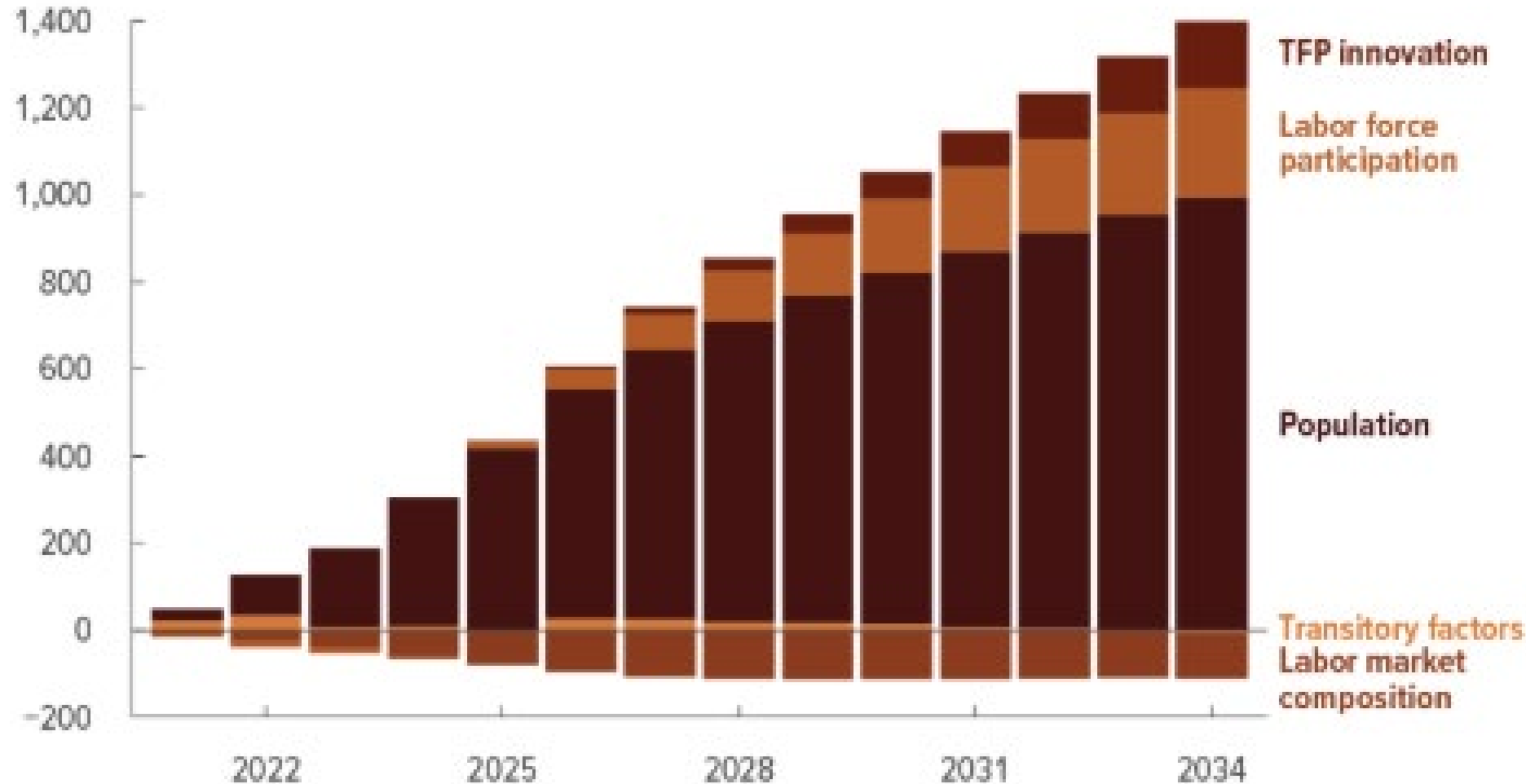
# The Many Benefits of Immigration

- The Bay Area region is home to over 2.6 million immigrants, half of whom have lived here for at least 10 years.
- In recent years, nearly all growth in the labor force has stemmed from immigration flows.
- Immigrants have \$1.3 trillion in disposable income to invest in the economy.
- First- and second-generation Americans are responsible for more than one-third of U.S. business formation.
  - Immigrants or their children founded 44% of all Fortune 500 firms
  - Immigrants are 80% more likely to start businesses.
- Immigration is expected to add \$8.9 trillion to the GDP between 2024 and 2034.



# Immigrants Increase America's GDP

Billions of dollars



Immigrants are projected to add \$8.9 trillion to the U.S. GDP between 2024 and 2034.

Most of this growth stems from a larger population and an increase in the labor force, but increases in productivity from innovation will add \$600 billion to the economy between 2024 and 2034.

# Current State of Immigration

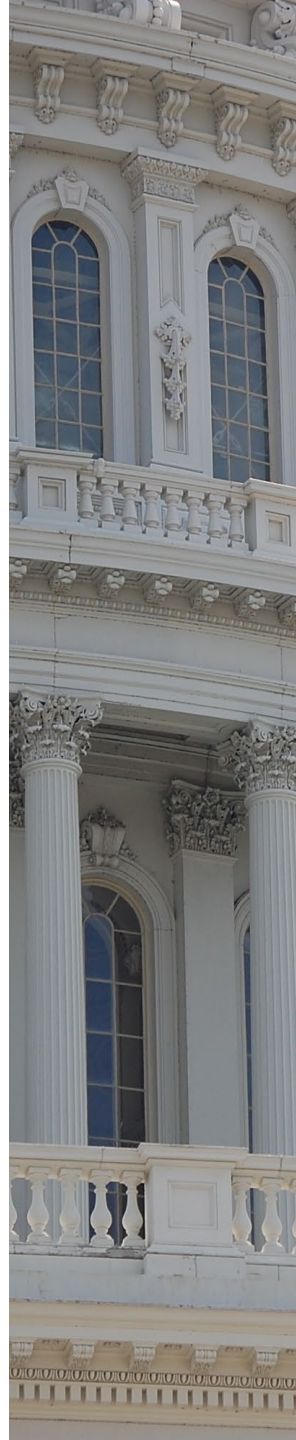
- In January 2026 alone, 6 people died in ICE custody and 2 were shot and killed by ICE agents.

The Administration has also:

- Tracked and targeted immigrants using AI, sensitive taxpayer information, and other invasive and illegal means.
- Expanded immigration raids and deportations, including wrongfully detaining and deporting lawful permanent residents and U.S. citizens.
- Forced immigrants to endure unsanitary conditions, medical neglect, and overcrowding in detention centers.



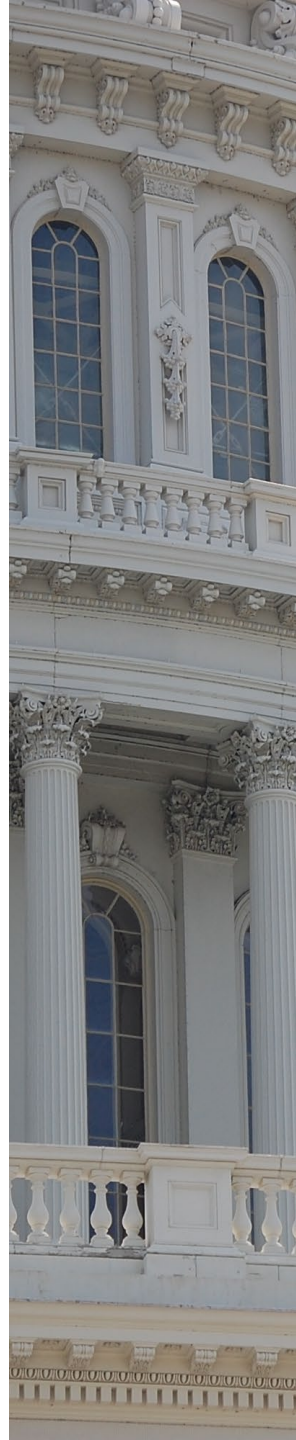
ICE cannot continue to be run this way, and Congressman DeSaulnier believes it should be abolished.



# Civil Rights Violations by the Administration

The Administration, at the behest of President Trump and then-Secretary Noem have repeatedly violated the Constitution with illegal orders including by violating:

- The 4th Amendment which guarantees protection from unreasonable search and seizure to citizens and non-citizens alike and requires that law enforcement or government agents have a warrant before entering private homes.
- The 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment which guarantees that all individuals born in the United States are citizens and afforded the rights of citizens under the law.



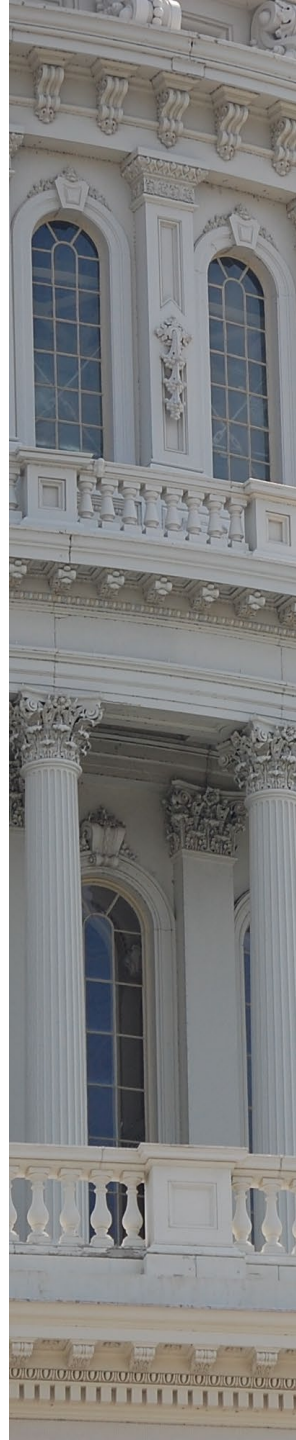
# Funding the Department of Homeland Security

Currently, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is shut down due to Republicans' inability to enact common sense reforms to rein in ICE's abuses.

- Just last week, Republicans in the House, Senate, and White House each pushed their own ideas forward to end the shutdown, and none were successful.
- Democrats are fighting to ensure any DHS funding bill includes guardrails and accountability measures including:
  - Requiring ICE to adhere to judicial warrant requirements.
  - Prohibiting the detention and deportation of American citizens.
  - Preventing the use of excessive force.
  - Requiring ICE agents to use body cameras and ban agents from wearing masks.

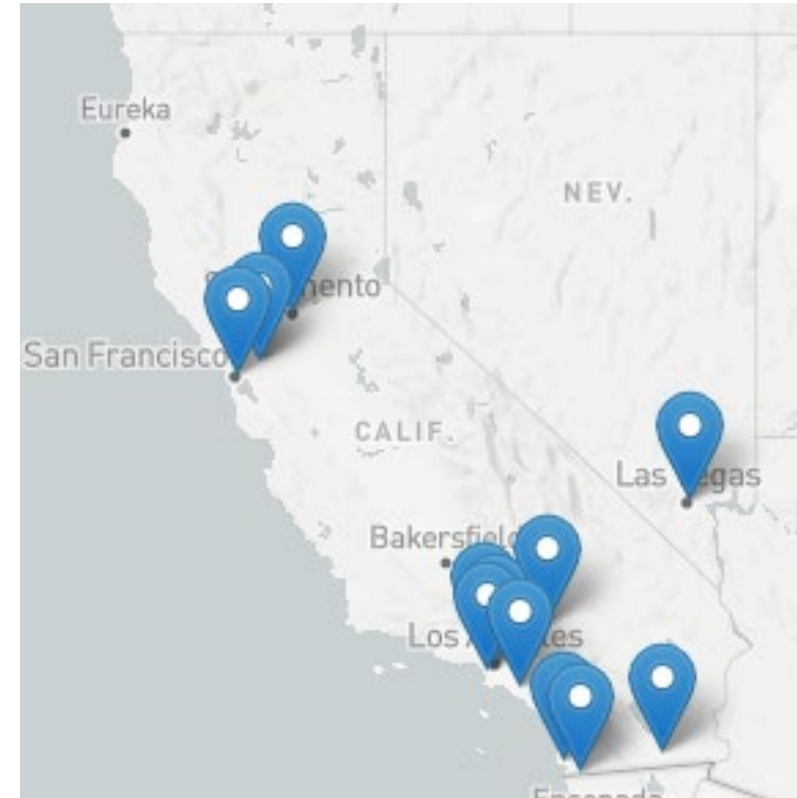


Congressman DeSaulnier has joined the effort to force a vote on a bill to fund all agencies under DHS (including FEMA and TSA) EXCEPT for ICE.

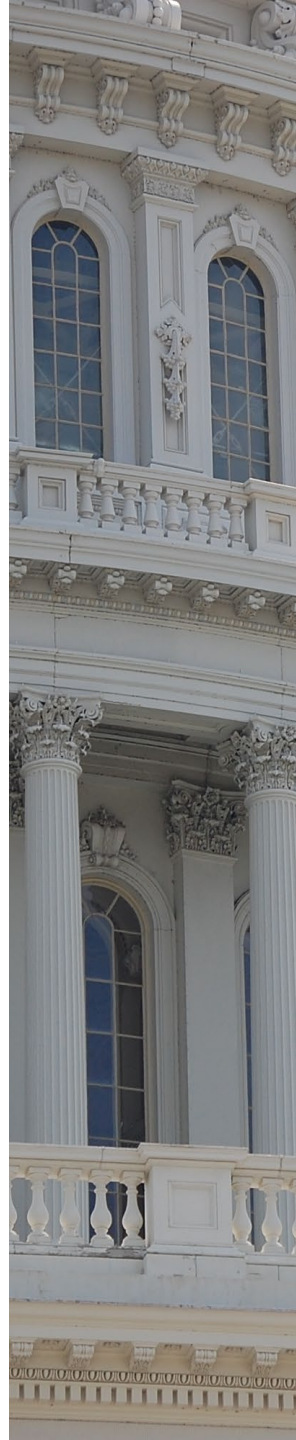


# Concord Immigration Court

- The Administration has announced it will close the San Francisco Immigration Court, shifting all cases to the Concord Immigration Court.
- Both courts are understaffed, and face backlogs totaling 180,000 cases, and have been packed with administrative judges who support the Administration's mass deportation agenda.
- On Tuesday, June 10<sup>th</sup> unmarked ICE agents arrested four asylum seekers who were at the Concord court to go through the proper judicial and legal process for immigration.
- Congressman DeSaulnier is opposed to the closure of the San Francisco Immigration Court, which will increase processing times and require people to travel farther to hear their cases.

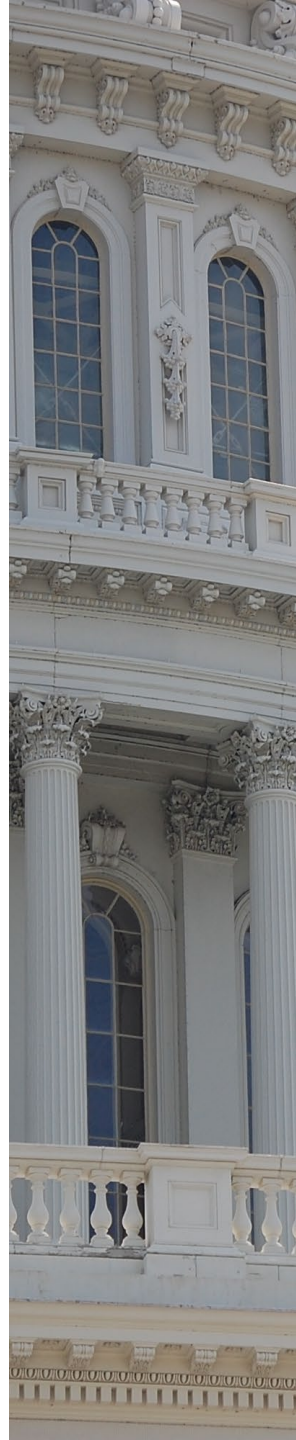


Immigration Courts in California



# Federal Correction Institute (FCI) Dublin

- FCI Dublin officially closed as a women's prison on April 15, 2024, in large part due to abuses within the prison as well as critical infrastructure, safety, and environmental deficiencies.
  - After the Bureau of Prisons (finishes an environmental review and public comment period, the facility will be offered up to other federal agencies.
  - ICE is already operating in 8 other federal prisons and rumors have been swirling that they hope to use FCI Dublin, too.
  - Congressman DeSaulnier is demanding answers from the Administration about its plans for the facility and objecting in no uncertain terms to reopening it as an ICE facility.



# Congressman DeSaulnier's Work on Immigration Reform

- In addition to other efforts, Congressman DeSaulnier is also a sponsor of the following bills:
  - The No Secret Police Act (H.R. 4176) to require law enforcement officials withing the Department of Homeland Security such as ICE agents to wear identifying information and ban them from using home-made, non-tactical masks.
  - The Humanitarian Standards for Individuals in ICE and CBP Custody Act (H.R. 7335) to require ICE and Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to conduct timely, in-person medical screenings and ensure basic humanitarian standards for individuals in federal custody
  - The Protecting Sensitive Locations Act (H.R. 1061) to prevent ICE and Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officers from arresting suspected undocumented immigrants in places that should be safe havens like places of worship, hospitals, schools, and courthouses.



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8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="https://arstechnica.com/tech-policy/2012/09/police-seizure-of-text-messages-violated-4th-amendment-judge-rules/">https://arstechnica.com/tech-policy/2012/09/police-seizure-of-text-messages-violated-4th-amendment-judge-rules/</a></li><li>• <a href="https://www.sfchronicle.com/politics/article/supreme-court-tackles-birthright-citizenship-case-20328852.php">https://www.sfchronicle.com/politics/article/supreme-court-tackles-birthright-citizenship-case-20328852.php</a></li></ul>
9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="https://democraticwhip.house.gov/newsroom/press-releases/joint-leadership-statement-on-homeland-security-funding-bill">https://democraticwhip.house.gov/newsroom/press-releases/joint-leadership-statement-on-homeland-security-funding-bill</a></li><li>• <a href="#">The DeSaulnier Digest: Join Our Virtual Immigration Town Hall on April 1st   Congressman Mark Desaulnier</a></li></ul>
10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Executive Office for Immigration Review   Find an Immigration Court and Access Internet-Based Hearings</a></li></ul>
11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="https://www.kqed.org/news/12027154/ice-weighs-turning-fci-dublin-into-detention-center-union-leaders-say">https://www.kqed.org/news/12027154/ice-weighs-turning-fci-dublin-into-detention-center-union-leaders-say</a></li></ul>