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Santa Barbara Women’s Political Committee

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37 Years of Feminism From Marching in the Streets to a Seat at the Table

March 25, 2025

The Honorable Salud Carbajal
2331 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
Legislative Director Johanna.Montiel@mail.house.gov

Dear Congressman Carbajal,

The Santa Barbara Women’s Political Committee strongly opposes H.R.32 (LaLota) No Bailout for Sanctuary Cities Act. We urge your no vote on this bill and to take any other actions available to you to oppose it.

This bill makes a state or political subdivision of a state ineligible for any federal funds that the jurisdiction intends to use to benefit non-U.S. nationals (i.e., *aliens* under federal law) who are unlawfully present if the jurisdiction withholds information about citizenship or immigration status or does not cooperate with immigration detainers. In effect, this bill seeks to punish locales that refuse to act as deputies for ICE.

HR 32 would withhold funding for critical programs like school meals, public transit, public health and other critical services. Clearly, this is intended to be part of the broader push to punish “Sanctuary Cities”, which have enacted policies limiting cooperation with the federal government and which are designed to foster trust between local authorities and immigrant communities, critical part of making cities safer by encouraging the reporting of crimes to police.

Withholding critical funding over immigration policy is cruel, thoughtless, and not even clearly legal. The 10th amendment <https://constitution.congress.gov/constitution/amendment-10/> protects local jurisdictions from federal overreach, and has been repeatedly validated in the courts. The federal government cannot in fact force local authorities to enforce federal policies. This ill-conceived bill would undermine that long-held precedent.

The Santa Barbara Women’s Political Committee is committed to advancing a society that is based on the feminist values of social, political, racial and economic gender equity. Should this bill become law, we believe that it would be a tragedy depriving educators, physicians, nurses and social workers of funds needed to advance important practices which benefit our community, our state, and our country.

Sincerely,

Lisa Guravitz Elsa Granados

Lisa Guravitz and Elsa Granados
Co-Presidents, SBWPC

Cc: Congressmember Nick LaLota; Legislative Director Mary.Hrinkevich@mail.house.gov