



*From citizenship to public service.*

*The National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) Educational Fund strongly opposes Arizona's SB 1070.*

- *SB 1070 is an unconstitutional and costly measure which will jeopardize the public safety of ALL Arizonans.* It gives local police responsibilities for enforcing immigration laws that will divert them from the important job of protecting our neighborhoods. It will deter immigrants from cooperating with police to help them solve crimes.
- *SB 1070 is a terribly flawed law that violates the civil rights of ALL Arizonans and individuals visiting Arizona.* It allows local law enforcement officials, who are not trained in federal immigration law, to make intrusive and unnecessary inquiries into the immigration status of residents and travelers. It presumes everyone is guilty, contradicting the fundamental American belief of innocence until proven otherwise.
- *SB 1070 subjects Arizona's Latinos and newcomers to discrimination and racial profiling.*
- *SB 1070 contains several unconstitutional provisions that attempt to supersede federal immigration laws and violate free speech protections.* Several lawsuits have already been filed, and more are pending, including from the U.S. Department of Justice. This will result in expensive litigation for the state when it can least afford it.
- *Several of the provisions include:*
  1. Allowing Arizona to regulate immigration by making any undocumented immigrant guilty of trespassing.
  2. Providing local police officers with the authority to conduct warrantless arrests of persons if the officer has "probable cause" to suspect the person is in the country illegally.
  3. Imposing criminal penalties for the solicitation of work by undocumented immigrants.
  4. Generally requiring police officers to make a reasonable attempt to determine the immigration status of a person whenever there is "reasonable suspicion" that the person is undocumented.
- *SB 1070 would require local government to spend scarce revenues enforcing this law, rather than on critical community services when the state and localities can least afford it.*

- *Proponents claim SB 1070 is needed to curb crime. **This is simply not true.** FBI data show a steady decline in Arizona's crime rate in the last several years. The U.S. Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Statistics show the state's crime rate at its lowest point in decades and below the national average.*
- *SB 1070 significantly impairs the ability of local police to effectively protect the communities and neighborhoods of Arizona. It makes immigrants mistrust local police, as immigrants will likely assume police are only interested in detaining them. Immigrants will be reluctant to report crimes or provide information about threats to public safety that affect all of the residents of their communities.*
- *Community groups, elected officials and police have worked tirelessly to ensure immigrant communities trust local law enforcement authorities. SB 1070 undermines that trust.*
- *Local police lack the specialized training required for the enforcement of federal immigration law.*
- *SB 1070 would allow persons to sue localities for violating some of the provisions and this could lead to costly and frivolous lawsuits.*
- *The state of Arizona has made some changes to SB 1070 to address some of the legislation's flaws. **However, these changes are merely cosmetic and actually make the bill worse.** For example, the bill allows police to check the immigration status of individuals under the pretext that they have violated minor local ordinances, such as failure to tend their property or maintain their vehicles.*
- *The enactment of SB 1070 highlights the need for comprehensive immigration reform.*
- *The National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) Educational Fund is actively working with a coalition of organizations to implement strategies to combat SB 1070.*
- *The National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) Educational Fund is supporting efforts to challenge SB 1070 in court.*
- *The National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) Educational Fund is dedicated to facilitating the full participation of Latinos in the American political process. The NALEO Educational Fund is committed to supporting and strengthening civic engagement in the state of Arizona.*
- *The National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) Educational Fund calls on the Obama administration to use its authority fully to ensure that the civil rights of individuals in Arizona are not violated and are protected under the U.S. Constitution.*