



**City of Bloomington
Office of the Common Council**

May 17, 2010

The Honorable Jan Brewer
Governor of Arizona
1700 W. Washington
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Dear Governor Brewer:

As elected officials of the City of Bloomington, Indiana we write to express our strong opposition to Arizona Senate Bill 1070. When you signed this measure into law, our collective national commitment to fairness and freedom was compromised. The measure threatens our most basic constitutional protections while driving a wedge between law enforcement and the people they are sworn to protect.

SB 1070 essentially legalizes racial profiling and gives police little choice but to target individuals based solely on their skin color. Without articulating clear guidelines, the vague requirement that police detain people who they “reasonably suspect” are in the country without authorization means that officers on the street will have to make decisions about the enforcement of this law. Officers will almost certainly rely on factors such as skin color, accent, residence, work place, and place of worship.

Indeed, police will likely feel pressure to make race-based arrests in light of the fact that SB 1070 empowers anyone to sue a state agency or county, city or town official because he or she believes the officer is not fully complying with the immigration law. This undermines public trust and obstructs effective community policing by building a wall between local agencies and immigrant communities. In addition, these short-sighted changes to the law will only serve to distract law enforcement from their vital work of pursuing violent criminals.

As you are well aware, the condemnation of your state’s new law is widespread. Human and civil rights organizations, labor groups, and local, state and federal leaders throughout the country have made clear that Arizona got it wrong. The mayor of Phoenix, Arizona, Phil Gordon, stated that the Arizona legislature is “out of step with the rules of basic civility.” President Barack Obama stated that the measure threatens “to undermine basic notions of fairness that we cherish as Americans, as well as the trust between police and their communities that is so crucial to keeping us safe.” We join this chorus of denunciation.

Unless and until Arizona rescinds SB 1070, the City of Bloomington urges City departments: (1) to the extent practicable, and in instances where there is no significant additional cost to the City or conflict with law, to refrain from entering into any new or amended contracts to purchase goods or services from any company that is headquartered in Arizona; (2) to avoid sending City officials or employees to conferences in Arizona; and (3) to review existing contracts for the purchase of goods and services with companies headquartered in Arizona and explore opportunities to discontinue those contracts consistent with the terms of the contracts and the principles of fiscal responsibility. Similarly, we encourage Bloomington-based businesses to refrain from doing business with the State of Arizona and we encourage private residents to avoid engaging in tourism in the State of Arizona.

Our immigration and citizenship laws define who "we" are as Americans. Any immigration reform must balance fairness, compassion and security. Born of fear and anger, SB 1070 does none of this. We are depending on you, as Arizona's top leader, to send a message not only to all Arizonians, but to all Americans, that we can – and will – do better.

Sincerely,



Mayor Mark Kruzan



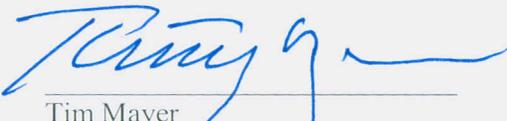
Isabel Piedmont-Smith, President
District V Representative



Andy Ruff, Vice President
At-Large Representative



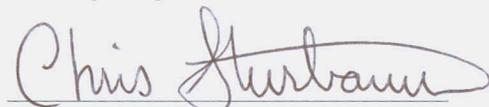
Mike Satterfield, Parliamentarian
District III Representative



Tim Mayer
At-Large Representative



Susan Sandberg
At-Large Representative



Chris Sturbaum
District I Representative



Dave Rollo
District IV Representative



Steve Volan
District VI Representative



Regina Moore
City Clerk

cc: Arizona General Assembly, Senator John McCain and Senator Jon Kyle