

Honorable Members of the Los Angeles City Council City Hall
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Community Impact Statement Council File 20-0002-S145 Reproductive Rights / Forced
Hysterectomies Prohibition / Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Facilities / Human
Rights Violation

Dear Honorable Councilmembers of Los Angeles City Council:

The Boyle Heights Neighborhood Council supports the Resolution (Rodriguez - Cedillo) to include in the City's 2019-2020 Federal Legislative program, support administrative or legislative action which would prohibit forced hysterectomies at ICE detention facilities. We urge the council to adopt the resolution and agree with the Report from Chief Legislative Analyst.

When a former nurse at Irwin County Detention Center in Ocilla, Georgia filed a whistleblower complaint with the DHS, ICE, and the Irwin County Detention Center on September 14, 2020 we learned about another event to the continued violation of human rights of those detained. The complaint alleged mistreatment and poor conditions, including lack of adequate response to the Covid-19 pandemic, as well as how women in custody were being subjected to forced hysterectomies without their knowledge or consent. This complaint further exposed the public to the horrors those in ICE detention centers endure and how their human rights continue to be violated.

The BHNC agrees and encourages the council to adopt the resolution to support administrative or legislative action to prohibit forced hysterectomies in ICE detention facilities. The BHNC approves of the City's efforts to protect the reproductive rights of all individuals, especially our immigrant communities held by ICE. ICE should no longer be permitted to continue to violate the human rights of those who they have detained and this resolution would help prohibit further reproductive rights violations.

Thank you for your considerations,
Boyle Heights Neighborhood Council