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California Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights Releases Report on Immigration Enforcement and Children in K-12 Schools

The California Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights released a <u>report</u>, *Understanding the Impact of Immigration Enforcement on California Children in K-12 Schools*, following a series of panel discussions to understand the following: the impact of ICE enforcement practices on access to public education for California K-12 students; access to equal protection under the law for individuals based on their perceived national origin; and the extent to which due process is afforded to K-12 students and their families.

In this report, the Committee heard testimony and received written statements from Customs and Border Protection, the California Department of Justice, academics, national and state advocacy organizations, legal experts, and individuals speaking on their own behalf or on behalf of interested organizations. Through this testimony, the Committee identified themes that include due process concerns, the potential effect of immigration enforcement on K-12 students and their families, and the relationship between immigration enforcement and California laws.

The report also includes recommendations directed to the Commission asking for corrective actions from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, the U.S. Department of Justice, the U.S. Congress, the California Legislature, the California Attorney General, and the California Department of Education with a goal of helping address the Committee's concerns.

Brian Moriguchi, vice chair said: "We are very grateful to the many experts and members of the public who provided valuable insight regarding immigration enforcement in and around public schools. We believe all children should have access to an education and all students should feel safe while attending school. The California Advisory Committee hopes this report will generate additional dialogue into the importance of separation of immigration enforcement from our K-12 learning institutions."

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The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, established by the Civil Rights Act of 1957, is the only independent, bipartisan agency charged with advising the President and Congress on civil rights and reporting annually on federal civil rights enforcement. Our 51 state Advisory Committees offer a broad perspective on civil rights concerns at state and local levels. For information about the Commission, please visit <u>www.usccr.gov</u> and follow us on <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Facebook</u>.