

Submitter:

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On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB1570

I strongly support this legislation. Healthcare facilities should be places for medical treatment and healing, not for law enforcement activities. Where medical treatment and law enforcement activities intertwine, medical treatment should take priority every time. In healthcare facilities around the state, there are already strong protocols and practices in place when a patient is in formal custody of law enforcement. These protocols and practices allow for patients to receive medical treatment free from law enforcement interference. However, in recent cases of ICE/CBP, officers and unidentified people claiming to be officers have actually interfered with medical treatment.

Professional Caregivers report that ICE/CBP operatives are creating environments where providing care to patients is obstructed, care is delayed, and at times have been prevented from providing care. This is simply unacceptable. Without taking a position on the controversial nature of ICE/CBP activities and related matters, common sense should prevail here. Hospitals and healthcare facilities are for medical treatment and healing. Let's keep them this way, for the sake of all.