

# CAPS NEWS

CALIFORNIANS FOR POPULATION STABILIZATION

Let's Save Some America For Tomorrow

Spring 2018 • Vol 59 • No. 1

## FIRE, FURY AND FLOOD

Wildfires, Mudslides and Death Ravage California in 2017-2018

Californians have had to contend with the deadly scourge of wildfires and their destructive aftermath ever since migrants first began pouring into the state en masse more than a century ago and settling in fire-prone habitats such as coastal sage scrub and chaparral.

These two vegetation communities dominate much of the landscape in the southern and coastal regions of the Golden State. Fires are an integral part of the ecology of scrub and chaparral habitats, and they burn every few years despite our best – and often misguided – efforts to tame them. Fire prevention, control, management and suppression have sometimes only aggravated the situation.

While wildland fires, and the drought cycles and Santa Ana winds that feed and fan their flames, have been part of California long before humans arrived on the scene, in recent years an ominous new term has made its appearance: “the new normal.” The new normal refers to hotter, drier conditions and larger, more intensive and catastrophic wildfires: big fires morphing into so-called megafires.



Thomas Fire raging in December 2017.

As the already hot, arid climate of the American Southwest grows even hotter and drier, states like California are getting parched more frequently by drought. At the same time, subdivisions to house California's ever-growing human population of 40 million and counting are penetrating ever more deeply into fire-prone habitats.

Risk and vulnerability are expanding exponentially in the region.

The net result is a dramatic increase in the size and intensity of California wildfires, accompanied by a depressing increase in the damage and destruction they cause, including loss of life. The year 2017 saw both the largest wildfire in California history – the Thomas Fire in Ventura and Santa Barbara counties – and the most destructive – the Tubbs Fire – in Napa, Sonoma and Lake counties north of San Francisco.

The Thomas Fire burned 281,893 acres (440 square miles), surpassing the 2003 Cedar Fire in

San Diego County to become the largest in California history. Denuding the rugged Santa Ynez Mountains above Santa Barbara and Montecito of their dense, protective layer of chaparral exposed steep slopes to the pelting raindrops of winter storms, promoting massive erosion, and increasing the vulnerability of communities below to flash flooding, landslides and mudslides.

The Thomas Fire thus set the stage for the lethal flooding and mudslides that engulfed Montecito and claimed more than 20 lives in January 2018. Members of CAPS' own board and staff were personally affected, having to be evacuated and, in one instance, losing a home.



Debris flow in Montecito, January 2018.



Santa Ynez Mountains above Montecito, October 2016, pre-Thomas Fire.

*Continued on page 5*

### NEPA LAWSUIT STATUS

CAPS' fight in court with eight other plaintiffs to force the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) continues. The lawsuit addresses the effect immigration programs have on the environment and the public. NEPA became law in 1970 and was intended to ensure the federal government would conduct analysis and give the public a voice before taking actions that affect our environment.

*Continued on page 4*

### CALIF. & IMMIGRATION

Sanctuary state California and its leadership, which includes Governor Jerry Brown, Attorney General Xavier Becerra and Senate President pro Tempore Kevin de Leon, have been locked in an immigration battle with President Donald Trump, Attorney General Jeff Sessions and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) since Inauguration Day.

The White House wants to enforce immigration laws; Brown and his cohorts seek to defy them. Sacramento passed

*Continued on page 5*

### CAPS DRIVES IMMIGRATION REFORM MESSAGE

“What happened to the Donald Trump that promised to put American workers first? Maybe we should ask Sen. Graham.” Wouldn't it be great if people who saw our TV ad had a chance to make their voice heard and possibly join CAPS as members?

In conjunction with our TV ad, CAPS leveraged our large social media presence of over 670,000 Facebook fans and strategic advertising to reach and engage

*Continued on page 6*

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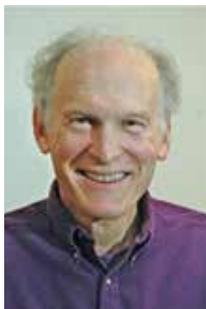
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Californians for Population Stabilization is a nonpartisan, nonprofit, public interest organization that works to formulate and advance policies and programs designed to stabilize the population of California, the U.S. and the world at levels which will preserve the environment and a good quality of life.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



This is my third message since I became President of CAPS in early 2017. In the first message I noted my concern for the negative influence of unchecked population growth on the environment and on the welfare of poor Americans.

My time as CAPS' President has coincided with that of the Trump administration. At the outset, I was worried that certain policies anticipated from this new administration would be damaging to the environment and that other new policies would reduce support for family planning programs at home and abroad. But, at the same time, based on Mr. Trump's campaign speeches, I had hopes that he would push strongly to implement laws that would effectively eliminate illegal immigration and would significantly reduce legal immigration levels.

Unfortunately, as regards the environment and family planning, changes in federal agency leadership personnel and policies during the past year all appear to be going in the wrong direction. For example, Trump administration cuts in federally funded programs in support of family planning (I'm not talking about abortion here), and for reduction in numbers of teenage pregnancies, will surely have negative effects on the welfare of poor Americans. I agree with a statement that Dr. Martin Luther King made in a 1966 speech: "There is scarcely anything more tragic in human life than a child who is not wanted."

At the same time, I am hard-pressed to discern any new long-term policies that Mr. Trump is pushing strongly that would deal effectively with the overpopulation aspects of our immigration woes. While barring persons from the USA based on their country of origin may impact national security, such an action has virtually nothing to do with the total number of immigrants admitted

to the USA. It is reduction of this number that is essential to CAPS' mission – an end to unsustainable U.S. population growth.

Elsewhere in this newsletter you can read about a recent very successful CAPS TV ad campaign, initially launched in South Carolina and Washington, D.C. The purpose is to make clear the huge gap between Mr. Trump's campaign rhetoric and the meager, at best, energy he has expended to bring about a real improvement in federal immigration policies.

I encourage CAPS supporters to contact their elected federal officials and request that they stand up for real long-term immigration policy reform. If one contacts a Democratic politician, it would be worthwhile to point out that Democratic support for illegal and too much legal immigration is likely to be a main reason why, nationwide, Republicans now occupy a majority of statewide and federal offices.

My personal position on legal immigration levels is similar to those of two distinguished national commissions. The first was The Commission on Population Growth and the American Future, chaired by John D. Rockefeller III in 1972, which recommended immigration levels not exceed 400,000 per year.

The second was the report from the U.S. Commission on Immigration Reform, chaired in 1995 by Barbara Jordan, a Democratic, African-American congresswoman, which proposed a core immigration admissions level of 550,000 per year. An immigration level of around 500,000 per year would still be the most generous of any country on earth.

When you communicate with your elected officeholders, you might want to have these numbers handy.

*Ben Zuckerman*

Ben Zuckerman  
President, CAPS

## In Memoriam

### Former CAPS President Diana Hull 1924-2017



Diana Hull, Ph.D., who served as President of CAPS from 2000 to 2010, died October 1, 2017, at the age of 93.

A distinguished behavioral scientist trained in demography and epidemiology, Diana earned degrees from City University of New York, the

University of Michigan (M.A.) and the University of Texas, School of Public Health (Ph.D.). Diana was a Clinical Associate Professor at the Baylor College of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry, and wrote about migration, health and the impacts of changed environments on physical and mental health for a variety of publications, including the *International Journal of Psychosomatic Research*, *Psychological Review* and *Social Science & Medicine*.

Diana and her husband, David, moved to Santa Barbara after she retired from Baylor. She continued writing, with a focus on population and immigration issues, and served on the Federation for American Immigration Reform Advisory Board and was a member of the Sierra Club's Population Committee and the Southern California Demographic Forum. After leaving CAPS, Diana served as the West Coast Editor of *The Social Contract*, a quarterly journal covering immigration, overpopulation, culture and the environment.

Among an extended community of advocates and educators, Diana is remembered for her commitment to addressing immigration, overpopulation and health & environmental issues for a sustainable future.

# In Memoriam

## CAPS Board Member Otis L. Graham, Jr. 1935-2017

By Leon Kolankiewicz, CAPS Senior Writing Fellow



Otis L. Graham speaking at the Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions in Santa Barbara, Calif.

Long-time CAPS board member and population stabilization advocate Dr. Otis L. Graham, Jr., died in November 2017 at the age of 82 due to complications from Parkinson's disease. Just weeks before his passing, CAPS honored Prof. Graham at a special luncheon at the historic Coral Casino Club in Montecito, adjacent to Santa Barbara and the Pacific Ocean. The timeless pounding of the surf right outside was a fitting acoustic accompaniment for the occasion.

CAPS board president and UCLA astronomer Ben Zuckerman and CAPS advisory board member and former Colorado Gov. Dick Lamm spoke at the luncheon, praising Otis' decades of service to nature and country, his erudition, and his activism.

Otis L. Graham, Jr. was born in 1935 in Little Rock, Arkansas, one of three sons of a Presbyterian minister. His older brother Fred became a legal correspondent for *The New York Times* and *CBS News* and later chief anchor and managing editor for *Court TV*. His younger brother Hugh was a history professor at Johns Hopkins, the University of Maryland, and Vanderbilt, specializing in Southern politics and the civil rights movement.

Otis himself lived the family tradition of both service and scholarship. He served for seven years in the U.S. Marines and Navy. He earned a B.A. from Yale University in 1957 and a Ph.D. from Columbia University in 1966. He then joined the faculty at the University of North Carolina and UCSB. Among other distinctions, he was named a Fellow at the Woodrow Wilson Center for Scholars, Guggenheim, National Endowment for the Humanities, and Center for Advanced Study and Behavioral Sciences at Stanford.

Otis was also Program Director at the Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions in Santa Barbara/Montecito, under its founder Robert (Bob) Maynard Hutchins, a prominent educational philosopher and university administrator. In 1999, Otis received the Robert Kelley Memorial Award from the National Council on Public History, honoring his "achievements and specific contributions to the public history movement." Over nearly half a century, he wrote or edited 19 books and many articles on the history of the United States, with an emphasis on American reform movements, political economy, the environment and immigration.

I first saw Otis in action in about 1994 in a public meeting on illegal immigration in the Orange City Hall, in the heart of Orange County, California. He addressed the city council on what the police department should do about the massive influx of illegal immigrants that had begun to affect the city. The erudition and eloquence of Otis' remarks earned enthusiastic applause from the audience.

Through his dedication to CAPS and other organizations, Otis Graham not only recorded, interpreted and taught American history, but helped make that very history himself. He did so as a beloved leader of the patriotic movement to restore sane immigration policies that would



Some of the books written by Otis L. Graham.

Among these books are *The Great Campaigns: Reform & War in America 1900-1928* (1971), *Toward a Planned Society: From Roosevelt to Nixon* (1977), *Losing Time: The Industrial Policy Debate* (1992), *A Limited Bounty: The U.S. Since WWII* (1995), *Unguarded Gates: A History of America's Immigration Crisis* (2003), *Immigration Reform and America's Unchosen Future* (2006) and *Presidents and the American Environment* (2015).

His last published book – about American presidents and the environment – was an engaging examination of which presidents fought for America's environment, and which fought against it, proceeding chronologically up through President Obama. Otis rated two larger-than-life Republican presidents as the best and the worst environmentalists of the lot: progressive Theodore Roosevelt at the start of the 20th century and reactionary Ronald Reagan towards its end.

And President Donald J. Trump? He was elected after the book was published, but I have often thought that Otis would have excoriated Trump on the environment even as he extolled him on immigration. Ever telling it like it is, sparing neither punches nor praise.

serve the interests of ordinary Californians and Americans – not elites and vested interests – and protect the land, the resources and the environment that sustain us from the scourge of overpopulation.

**California / Then & Now** is a legacy project of Otis L. Graham, inspired by a 1946 WPA state guide, what Graham called a "record of lost or spoiled places." Watch the video from the home page of the CAPS website.



Otis L. Graham, Jr.

Please accept this tax-deductible gift to CAPS in honor of Dr. Otis L. Graham, Jr.

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## RELITIGATING A FIGHT FOR PRECIOUS L.A. OPEN SPACE



For those in Los Angeles who fought long and hard to preserve an area north of the Getty Center and west of the 405 freeway as open space, to find themselves again in battle for what they thought was protected must be beyond frustrating.

Save our Mountains, Inc. was formed 25 years ago to fight for open space in L.A. Through its efforts, a development to build 17 mansions in a gated community was fought successfully. As a result of the work of activist community members, the 1,500-acre Westridge-Canyonback Wilderness Park was created in the eastern Santa Monica Mountains in Los Angeles and is enjoyed by visitors throughout the year. Bordered by upper Mandeville Canyon, Sullivan Canyon, Mission Canyon and San Vicente Mountain Park, Westridge-Canyonback Wilderness Park is contiguous with the 20,000-acre urban wilderness park known as the "Big Wild."



Joining the fight for preservation within the same area, Canyon Back Alliance, along with multiple community-based,

grassroots organizations also won a long battle in 2006 with developer Castle & Cooke in an agreement that provided unrestricted trail access outside the two residential developments the company had planned. This area is now under threat again.

Castle & Cooke did not build the housing development that was approved by the city, and in 2016 sold the 450 acres to billionaire developer Nicolas Berggruen for \$45 million. Rather than the approved housing plan, Berggruen has a completely different proposal that would house an eponymous think tank. The proposal to build a facility for the Berggruen Institute would encroach on area that cannot be developed per prior agreements. This has sent up red flags with many concerned community members, who have formed Protect Our Wildlands in opposition.



Proposed Berggruen Institute.

In what some are calling a vanity project, the billionaire is being asked to consider building his institute in a developed area of L.A. and preserve in perpetuity the 450 acres of wild space as natural habitat, a wild animal corridor

and walking trails. Community residents are concerned about shutting off public access to trails that they fought to establish, including the Riordan Trail, named for the former L.A. mayor and his wife.

Concerned activists have voiced numerous safety, security and noise concerns as well. In the 1960s and 70s, the area was a massive garbage field, which has since been filled. The landfill continues to produce methane, which is vented. As a methane site, there is fire risk, and the area already has the designation as a very high fire hazard severity zone. The proposed development is near the 2017 Skirball fire which burned through more than 400 acres and destroyed or damaged 18 structures. Fire risks will increase, activists say, if roads and buildings are built atop the former landfill.



2017 Skirball fire.

As a high-profile private institute expected to draw cognoscenti and intelligentsia, it's thought a high-level of security will be needed, which may further limit access to areas given public easement. Additionally, as a high-profile venue, it could be a target for radical protests and threats, thus endangering the local residential community. A helicopter pad is one potential element of the design, which area residents say would increase noise levels.

The area includes riparian woodland with ferns, sycamores and oak trees, and among the environmental concerns for what is a wildlife corridor are increasing light pollution that would negatively impact animals in one of the last large wild areas near the city. The area is rich with biodiversity, including cougars, coyotes, deer, falcons, great horned owls, raccoons, redtailed hawks and quail, among other wildlife.



The eastern Santa Monica Mountains.

Whether those working to preserve open space or the billionaire ultimately win this battle, or if some mutually beneficial compromise is struck, is yet to be seen. But the unfolding story highlights increasing tensions as wild spaces and wildlife are increasingly under pressure as there's less and less natural habitat in an overdeveloped, overpopulated California.

Visit [protectourwildlands.org](http://protectourwildlands.org) to watch a video of the Southern California open space that would be forever altered. Also, visit [canyonback.org](http://canyonback.org) to learn more about the original battle to save the land.

## CAPS NAMES RIC OBERLINK AS NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Ric Oberlink, J.D., CAPS Executive Director.

The CAPS Board has chosen Ric Oberlink as its new Executive Director. Ric previously served as ED for CAPS from 1992 to 1997, and has been active with CAPS during most of the intervening years – providing legislative and environmental analysis and written commentary. Active in population and environmental issues since high school, Ric graduated from the University of Illinois – with a major in Political Science and a minor in Environmental Studies – and the UC-Berkeley School of Law, where his studies included a clinical semester with the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund. An Army veteran and a former attorney in private practice, his op-eds have been published in various media, including the *Los Angeles Times*, *San Francisco Chronicle*, *San Diego Union-Tribune* and *Philadelphia Inquirer*. He has appeared on *NPR*, *CNN* and *PBS Newshour* and has testified before the California legislature numerous times. When he finds free time, Ric is often cycling, hiking or gardening.

CAPS would also like to express its gratitude to Jo Wideman for her many years of service as CAPS Executive Director.

## CAPS NEPA LAWSUIT UPDATE *(Continued from page 1)*

In the year and a half since the case was filed, DHS has continued to delay and has tried to prevent the plaintiffs from ever receiving a hearing on the merits of the question of whether the immigration programs that DHS implemented and continues to administer have a significant impact on the environment.

In January 2018, DHS filed a partial motion to dismiss some of our counts. We have opposed their motion. The briefings on this motion were finished in March. We now await the court's decision on whether it will address the substance of our claim – that DHS has no right to implement actions that admit tens of millions of new residents into the country without any consideration of whether doing so could have environmental consequences.

Stay tuned for more information as this landmark lawsuit unfolds.



Tables 1 and 2 illustrate just how the size and damage of wildfires in California have exploded in the last two decades. Table 1 – Ten Largest Wildfires in California History – shows that all of the five largest wildfires in state history, and seven of the top ten, have occurred just since 2000.

Table 1 Ten Largest Wildfires in California History		
Fire Name	Year	Size (acres)
Thomas	2017	281,893
Cedar	2003	273,246
Rush	2012	271,911
Rim	2013	257,314
Zaca	2007	240,207
Matilija	1932	220,000
Witch	2007	197,990
Klamath Theatre Complex	2008	192,038
Marble Cone	1977	177,866
Laguna	1970	175,425

Source: Cal Fire, 1-12-2018.

Table 2 – Ten Most Destructive Wildfires in California History – shows that four of the five most destructive wildfires in state history, and seven of the top ten, have also happened in the 2000s. Destructiveness is rated by the

number of structures (e.g., homes, buildings) destroyed by a given fire.

Table 2 Ten Most Destructive Wildfires in California History				
Fire Name	Year	Structures Destroyed	Deaths	Size (acres)
Tubbs	2017	5,643	22	36,807
Tunnel	1991	2,900	25	1,600
Cedar	2003	2,820	15	273,246
Valley	2015	1,955	4	76,067
Witch	2007	1,650	2	197,990
Nuns	2017	1,355	2	54,382
Thomas	2017	1,063	1	281,893
Old	2003	1,003	6	91,281
Jones	1999	954	1	26,200
Butte	2015	921	2	70,868

Source: Cal Fire, 1-12-2018.

All in all, in 2017, California was scorched by nearly 9,000 wildfires, which in total burned some 1.2 million acres (1,845 square miles), about equal to the size of Delaware. More than 10,800 structures were destroyed, and at least 46 lives lost.

Unfortunately for Californians, the immediate future is likely to see more of the same, only more so, driven by two potent, underlying trends: 1) California’s continuing, immigration-driven

population growth and related sprawl into the countryside and 2) a drying, warming climate. Neither of these persistent, forceful trends shows any sign of tapering off. In the coming decades, wildfires are likely to grow even more massive, destructive and deadly.

The economic, environmental and human cost of wildfires to all Californians, including individual residents, businesses, and local, state and federal governments, will continue to skyrocket; we will all pay more to prevent wildfires and mitigate their damages. For lost lives, there can be no compensation.

To really address the root causes of the wildfire predicament would require Californians to face up to the perils of both overpopulation and anthropogenic climate change. The state’s liberal Democratic leadership is all gung-ho about the latter but all hung-up on the former, because this would mean acknowledging that immigration levels are too high. Apparently, Democratic politicians would rather sacrifice the well-being of their state’s residents and environment than forego their fierce commitment to open borders and the perpetual population growth this engenders.



Entire neighborhoods of Santa Rosa destroyed by the Tubbs Fire.

CALIFORNIA AND IMMIGRATION: LOOKING BACK, PEERING AHEAD (Continued from page 1)

Communities Resist State’s Sanctuary Law

legislation designed to undermine immigration laws, specifically those that allow ICE to remove convicted criminal aliens. California’s notorious sanctuary state legislation, SB 54, prohibits local law enforcement from cooperating with ICE. Among its provisions, SB 54 prevents local law authorities from alerting ICE when jailed aliens are released, except in the most egregious cases.

In response, the Orange County sheriff’s office announced it would publish an online database of the time of release of all inmates. The action was “a response to SB 54 limiting our ability to communicate with federal authorities and our concern that criminals are being released to the street when there’s another avenue to safeguard the community by handing them over,” according to the sheriff’s office.

Two other California laws also undercut federal law: one, employers may not allow ICE to enter a worksite to review company records without a subpoena or a judicial warrant (AB 450) and must give a heads-up to their workforce before immigration agents arrive for an inspection. Two, the state can oversee conditions at federal immigrant detention centers (AB 103).

Including non-immigration issues, Becerra has filed more than 25 lawsuits against the Trump administration. Sessions quickly retaliated with a Department of Justice lawsuit against California. During his visit to Sacramento, Sessions announced that DOJ filed a lawsuit, and he argued that federal law supersedes state law. California’s SB 54, Sessions said, violates the U.S. Constitution.

The divide between the White House and Sacramento has generated ugly, sophomoric and unhelpful name calling. Brown: “The Trump administration is full of liars.” De Leon, a candidate for Sen. Dianne Feinstein’s seat, called President Trump’s immigration policies “morally repugnant.”

The immigration battle waged in Sacramento completely ignores what Californians want for their state. Votes on sanctuary cities, deferred action for childhood arrivals (DACA) – another Becerra lawsuit target – and entitlements like driver licenses for illegal aliens that were granted in 2013 never appeared on a statewide ballot. The bills are passed in the legislature and then signed by Gov. Brown.



Ask California residents what they think about the state’s refusal to comply with federal immigration laws, and the results are surprising. Polling found that Californians oppose the state’s most contentious bill, SB 54, regardless of their age, political affiliation or ethnicity. The UC Berkeley Institute of Governmental Studies, established nearly 100 years ago, found that 74 percent of respondents said local authorities

should not be able to ignore a federal request to hold a detained illegal immigrant.

So not surprisingly, across the state, Californians are fighting back against the dangerous SB 54. Orange County, California’s third most-populous county with about 3 million residents, joined the federal lawsuit against the Golden State and demanded that citizens be protected. In March, the county’s Board of Supervisors voted 4-0 to direct the county counsel to join Sessions’ sanctuary lawsuit against California. Orange County Sheriff Sarah Hutchens threw her support behind the supervisors while four other California counties – Tehama, Kern, Siskiyou and Shasta – also passed non-sanctuary resolutions.

Further, Los Alamitos council members passed a measure to exempt the city from SB 54, and instead to “honor our oath to support and defend the Constitution of the United States.” A dozen more California cities are considering similar action, while Yorba Linda and Escondido voted to file an amicus brief in support of the federal lawsuit.

Resistance to the dangerous SB 54 is building, a good sign that California may yet right itself, and become a sanctuary for law-abiding citizens and lawful permanent residents.

Join the Resistance! Call or email your city and county officials and ask them to oppose Sacramento’s sanctuary laws. Local jurisdictions could (1) pass a resolution opposing SB 54, (2) join the federal lawsuit against California or (3) file a friend-of-the-court brief in support of the federal suit.

# CAPS DRIVES IMMIGRATION REFORM MESSAGE WITH TRADITIONAL, SOCIAL MEDIA

(Continued from page 1)



CAPS broadcast spot.



CAPS broadcast spot.



A recent CAPS Facebook post.

audiences in Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia and Washington, D.C.

What was our goal? To poll this audience with a simple question: What Should President Trump do on immigration – Keep his campaign promises or listen to Lindsey Graham, and give amnesty to millions?

The results were astounding. CAPS reached more than 250,000 people who had likely seen our TV ad in those states. Among 4,500 people who took the poll, approximately 90 percent were in favor of President Trump keeping his campaign promises, and CAPS gained 4,000 new members.

CAPS used similar social media tactics in the sanctuary debate in California, by launching a rapid-response social media campaign asking

California residents to sign a petition urging cities, counties and local municipalities to “opt-out” of the “sanctuary state” law.

Reaching an audience of more than 300,000 California residents in two weeks, CAPS received over 6,500 signed petitions and approximately 6,000 new members. CAPS continues to engage too with a growing audience on Twitter (@Crowdifornia).



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## GRASSROOTS ORGANIZATION ANNOUNCES CALIF. BALLOT INITIATIVE TO FIGHT SANCTUARY STATE LAWS

Earlier this month, **Fight Sanctuary State**, a grassroots organization founded by parents whose children were killed by illegal alien criminals, announced they have filed a ballot initiative to change sanctuary laws in California. CAPS endorses their efforts.

The proposed initiative targets repealing SB 54 and AB 450. Under SB 54, local law officers cannot advise ICE when jailed aliens are released. AB 450 requires that employers in California not cooperate with federal immigration authorities, and it imposes penalties on employers who voluntarily assist federal immigration.

Fight Sanctuary State, in their press release, states that “repealing those two laws will not fully address the scope of the problems Californians face as a result of mass, unchecked illegal immigration.” California “sanctuary” cities

have long been obstructing federal immigration enforcement, according to Fight Sanctuary State, while state legislators have continued in recent years providing more privileges to illegal aliens and prioritizing them over law-abiding citizens and legal residents.

Further, the group states that thousands of dangerous criminals have been released to the streets instead of being turned over to ICE. As well, California cities that have embraced sanctuary policies for decades have high crime rates and high rates of homelessness. And, due to sanctuary state laws, innocent, law-abiding citizens and legal residents of California have been killed, raped, assaulted and burglarized by illegal alien criminals.

“Most Californians would be horrified to realize the full impact of illegal alien crime in our state,”

said Don Rosenberg, a Fight Sanctuary State cofounder and CAPS advisory board member. “Sanctuary policies kill our children and kill our dreams. I’ve been advocating for changes to our laws since my son’s death, and California’s leaders still don’t get it. Since they won’t take steps to put Californians first, the voters will do it for them.”

Learn more at [fightsanctuarystate.com](http://fightsanctuarystate.com) about what’s in the ballot initiative. Read “California and Immigration” on page 1 for other efforts to restore immigration policy sanity to California.



6

**CAPS**  
**FACT**

In a U.S. “Best States” ranking, California ranks at the bottom of the list for quality of life.  
– U.S. News & World Report