



## **Immigration Policy Position Statement**

### **About JPAC**

The Jewish Public Affairs Committee of California (JPAC) is the largest single-state coalition of Jewish organizations in the nation. Comprised of local Jewish Federations, Jewish Community Relations Committees and Councils, Jewish Family Service agencies, and many other Jewish advocacy organizations we advocate on behalf of Jewish social service agencies, traditional community concerns, and broadly shared values that affect the citizens of our State. JPAC monitors and helps to develop and promote state legislative initiatives of interest to the Jewish community and the community at-large.

### **Jewish Community Concerns**

Historically, the American Jewish community has supported generous and rational immigration laws and policies. That support is rooted in large measure by the experiences of Jews seeking asylum, refuge and immigration over the course of centuries in an America that has at times closed its doors with tragic results due to anti-immigrant sentiments. In addition, Jewish tradition, values, and the dictates of our faith make this support imperative.

JPAC believes in the democratic ideals of justice and human rights. As such, we support immigration policies that protect due process, keep families together, and support the economic fabric of our State. California is home to millions of immigrants from across the globe, including more than 2.5 million undocumented immigrants, who contribute to our rich culture and economy in positive ways. We seek a rational balance between securing our nation's borders to ensure public safety and the humane and dignified treatment of human beings.

## **What We Support**

Specifically, we support immigration policies that protect the State's most vulnerable undocumented immigrants, such as victims of sexual assault and domestic violence, undocumented immigrants who were brought here as children (Dreamers), U.S. born children of undocumented immigrants, and victims of hate crimes and human trafficking. We also oppose efforts to put law-abiding undocumented immigrant residents at risk of immediate deportation without due process and actions that break up families.

## **JPAC Actions**

JPAC is committed to:

1. Actively engaging in broad-based coalitions with other California-based groups with similar objectives;
2. Partnering with elected officials to ensure the protections detailed above; and,
3. Supporting legislation that achieves our objectives.