

# ‘Sanctuary State’ bill takes flack on Facebook from Woodlanders

By [Hans Peter](#), Woodland Daily Democrat

Posted: 10/06/17, 1:15 PM PDT | Updated: 28 secs ago

Woodland Facebookers have not been kind to Gov. Jerry Brown’s newly signed “Sanctuary State” bill that passed Thursday.

Also known as SB54, the bill extends protection to undocumented immigrants within the state of California — an estimated population of 2.3 million.

Police within the state will no longer be allowed to ask individuals about immigration status. Also, they are now barred from working with or participating in immigration enforcement activities. The bill will take full effect on Jan. 1, 2018.

Though Brown has received flack for his signature, he actually dampened the bill after Democratic legislators proposed that even jails within the state would be unable to cooperate with federal efforts. After passing through Brown, jails will be able to work with federal government if anyone in custody has been convicted of one of about 800 crimes.

The news has Woodlanders booing and applauding digitally all over Facebook.

“We have homeless veterans, women and children that Jerry ‘Grown’ won’t lift a finger to help,” reads one post from Woodlander Vance Castanon. “He’s more concerned about the illegals before American citizens.”

Contrarily, other comments carry congratulations, thanks and friendly emojis.

“Police aren’t supposed to ask people about that,” wrote one person. “That’s the job of the federal government.”

Other comments include “(middle finger emoji) Trump” and “Thank you Gov. Brown” accompanied by a heart emoji.

“This is the State of California, not the Country of California, and Brown is not the King.” stated Peter Maggenti, of Winters. “He is supposed to represent the people not just what (himself) and people who agree with him.”

At a local level, Facebook appears calmer, despite a similar level of activity.

Woodland Mayor Angel Barajas posted on Wednesday that the city is now an official “United City.” That resolution, voted across unanimously by the council, means Woodland local law

enforcement would not act with or assist federal efforts to deport undocumented residents. Woodland Police will stay out of the investigation completely.

Barajas's post spread through nearly 70 shares, but received only gratifying comments like "bravo," "thank you all" and "you will get my vote Angel in the next election."

In an email to The Democrat, District 4 Supervisor Jim Provenza also shared thoughts on Brown's move. While he considered the "sanctuary state" title a "misnomer," he largely agreed with the governor's efforts.

"Immigration enforcement is and always has been a federal responsibility," Provenza stated. "Our state already contributes more in taxes to the federal government than we get back in services. This is another instance where the federal government is asking us to subsidize them. In this case, we are being asked to subsidize a federal policy that is contrary to the public interest."

He went on to state that he believes federal involvement has strayed away from targeting immigrants who commit crimes and "instead focuses on family members of legal immigrants, farmworkers, and others who pay taxes and contribute to our state's economy. This is not only morally wrong but it could, hurt Yolo County's agricultural economy."

Brown's tapering of SB54 in effect allows the federal government to seek out immigrants who have been sentenced with serious crimes. Provenza stated that appreciated Brown's attention to that detail.

*Contact Hans Peter at 530-406-6238.*