

# Yolo County, safe and welcoming

## By Letters to the Editor

Supervisor Provenza and I are co-sponsoring a resolution called Yolo County, a Safe and Welcoming Place for All: Protecting Children and Keeping Families Together. This resolution will be discussed by the Yolo County Board of Supervisors at our July 24 meeting. This topic is a continuation of ongoing community-wide effort and builds upon our Safe and Welcoming Communities Resolution that the board passed 5-0 last year.

We are asking for support of this resolution so that the Yolo County Board of Supervisors may join countless municipalities and school districts across the nation who have stood up and rejected the current administration's harmful family separations under a draconian and morally abhorrent policy. These policies have led to the separation of over 3,000 children from their parents. Studies show that separating children from their parents can cause lifelong negative physical and mental health consequences. This is wrong and we will not be silent.

We know that separation breeds fear and alienation in immigrant communities, leading to avoidance of contact with government agencies and personnel and impacts public health and safety. That's why together, Supervisor Provenza and myself recognize the importance of creating and promoting healthy, safe communities by providing critical services, protection and support for all our Yolo County residents, no matter their documentation status.

By approving the resolution the board will commit to the following actions:

- \* Submit letters to the current administration and our local representatives voicing our rejection of the incarceration of children.
- \* Commit to legislative action to advocate for sensible immigration policies that uphold the U.S. Constitution;
- \* Call on interfaith leaders in Yolo County to create a forum on immigration policies;
- \* Examine legal resources to support Yolo County residents with immigration issues;
- \* Look into public defender resources allocated toward immigration relief for Yolo County residents.

Please join us in voicing your support for this resolution. The resolution will be heard at 9 a.m. at the July 24 Board of Supervisors meeting, at 625 Court Street, Room 206, Woodland.

**Don Saylor**

Yolo County Supervisor, District 2

**Jim Provenza**

Yolo County Supervisor, District 4