

April 21, 2003

Honorable Gil Cedillo, Member
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 313
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 60 – OPPOSE


Dear Senator Cedillo:

The Riverside Sheriffs' Association, which represents over 2,000 rank and file Deputy Sheriffs, Deputy Probation Officers, District Attorney Investigators, and Deputy Coroners, the entire law enforcement team of the County of Riverside, respectfully opposes your bill, SB 60.

Before 9/11, there was relative merit to your measure to make it easier for immigrants to obtain a California Driver's License. Such a bill would have helped ensure that licensed immigrants were qualified and insured drivers. However, after the events of 9/11, this benefit is outweighed by the public safety risks that a California Driver's License could have in the wrong hands. A California Driver's License, in reality, is a de facto passport from anything to cashing checks, boarding an airplane, and even getting into the State Capitol. If anything, securing a California Driver's License should be more, rather than less, difficult. While we appreciate your intent, SB 60 is poor public safety policy.

Very truly yours,


Pat McNamara
President


Timothy H. B. Yaryan
Legislative Counsel and Advocate