

My name is Tim Moore, Sr. Pastor of Walk Worthy Baptist Church here in Austin, and I am a church mobilizer for the National Immigration Forum's, **Bible, Badges and Business**.

I oppose SB4 as substituted on the grounds that local law enforcement is currently under-staffed and under-funded. To convert local law enforcement dollars and personnel to be spent and mandated to enforce Federal Immigration laws and responsibilities only dilutes their effectiveness in the community. The net effect of this bill will be to increase manpower for federal immigration enforcement arenas at the cost of local law enforcement reducing crime.

While most cities are broken up into law enforcement quadrants (say utilizing 8 patrol cars per quadrant) when law enforcement enters a home to discover it is occupied with a family of undocumented, SB4 mandates arrest. That one officer will be required to call as many as 3-4 other units to detain the other family members. So assuming you have an undocumented mother and father and two children and one American citizen child. That account will require up to 5 patrol units for the enforcement of immigration law at the expense of other crimes in that quadrant of the city that could be enforced. Department rules that only one prisoner per back seat of a patrol car. This simple example demonstrates that SB4 is mandating that local law enforcement are becoming federal immigration officers.

Sheriffs, who operate 85% of local jails, are still waiting for courts to clarify the legality of "detainers" to hold prisoners for possible deportation. Court rulings over the last several years have dissuaded law enforcement from honoring detainers, fearing that doing so would make them vulnerable to civil rights lawsuits.

Last year, a U.S. District Court in Illinois ruled that the detainers are illegal because they exceed governments authority to hold prisoners without a warrant. Most sheriffs feel they can't hold people without a warrant from a judge. Clarity is needed.

I'm also concerned that our local communities will now become grounds for profiling by law enforcement individuals that have not been adequately trained in federal immigration laws.

Lastly, if the goal of local law enforcement is safe communities, SB 4 as substituted has a high probability of an opposite effect as another layer of federal law enforcement responsibilities are added to local law enforcement daily routines.

Governor Abbott said he intends to maintain state-funded security along the Texas-Mexico border, though he hinted that federal officials may be poised to step up their presence in a move that could allow Texas taxpayers to trim their current \$800 million investment.

Likewise, as this new administration steps up ICE activity in local communities and along the border we could expect less need to direct local law enforcement to aid in enforcement of federal immigration laws.