

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

[Police Code - Non-Legal Immigration Services]

Ordinance amending the Police Code to require that individuals who notarize or assist people in completing immigration documents offer a document prepared by the City that identifies free or low-cost immigration legal services providers and consulates; and to authorize the Human Rights Commission to provide assistance to members of the public who wish to file a complaint with a state licensing or enforcement entity against a notary or immigration consultant who allegedly violated legal requirements applicable to their activities.

Existing Law

City law does not require state licensed notaries or immigration consultants to distribute to clients a City-created list of pro bono or low-cost immigration legal service providers and local consulates.

Amendments to Current Law

The proposed ordinance would require notaries public who notarize documents for use in immigration proceedings and immigration consultants to offer clients for whom they provide these services a document created by the Office of Civic Engagement and Immigration Affairs that identifies pro bono or low-cost immigration legal service providers and local consulates. The Human Rights Commission would be authorized to enforce this requirement by issuing a warning for a first violation and citations for subsequent violations up to a maximum penalty of \$1,000 per violation. The proposed ordinance would also authorize the Human Rights Commission to assist members of the public who believe a notary or immigration consultant has violated the laws or regulations governing their activities file a complaint with the appropriate authorities.