

1 [Supporting California State Assembly Bill No. 1096 (Rivas) - Alien: Change of Terms]

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3 **Resolution supporting California State Assembly Bill No. 1096 (AB 1096), Alien:**  
4 **Change of Terms, authored by Assembly Member Luz Rivas, to eliminate the**  
5 **derogatory term “alien” from California state codes and urging the California State**  
6 **Senate to pass AB 1096.**

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8 WHEREAS, California Assembly Member Luz Rivas introduced Assembly Bill No. 1096  
9 (AB 1096) to eliminate the term “alien” from all California state codes and replace the word  
10 with other language that is more reflective of today’s legal terminology; and

11 WHEREAS, The term “alien” has been used to describe non-U.S. born individuals by  
12 the federal government since 1798; and

13 WHEREAS, The term “alien” has been used to describe non-U.S. born individuals in  
14 California legal codes since its introduction into the California Legislature in 1937; and

15 WHEREAS, The term “alien” has been used as a derogatory reference to noncitizens  
16 starting in the 1990s and has been weaponized by anti-immigrant and racist groups as a dog  
17 whistle to express bigotry, hatred and dehumanize immigrant communities; and

18 WHEREAS, About 11 million foreign-born immigrants live in California and an  
19 estimated 2 million are undocumented; and

20 WHEREAS, Racist incidents and anti-immigrant rhetoric has seen a surge in recent  
21 years against Black, Brown, and Asian residents; and

22 WHEREAS, Removing the term “alien” is a necessary step to rectify the harms and  
23 dark history of the term, and to treat immigrant and noncitizen California residents with dignity;  
24 and

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1           WHEREAS, In 2015 California eliminated and replaced the term “alien” with  
2 “noncitizen” in the California Labor Code but the term “alien” is still used throughout other  
3 sections of California state law; and

4           WHEREAS, The California Assembly has passed AB 1096 with bipartisan support and  
5 is being heard in the California Senate; now, therefore, be it

6           RESOLVED, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors urges the California Senate to  
7 pass AB 1096; and, be it

8           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby directs the Clerk of the  
9 Board to transmit a copy of this Resolution to the offices of California Senators on the  
10 California State Senate Judiciary Committee.

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