

U.S. REGULAR MAIL/PERSONAL COURIER

The Honorable John Garamendi **US** House of Representatives 2428 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

H.R. 4696 LEGISLATION, CO-SPONSOR REQUEST FROM THE CITY OF SAN PABLO

Dear Representative Garamendi,

On behalf of the City of San Pablo City Council, I write in strong support of H.R. 4696, the Renewing Immigration Provisions of the Immigration Act of 1929 Act (the Act), introduced by U.S. Congressional Representative Zoe Lofgren (D-13th) and U.S. Senator Padilla (D-CA). This important legislation would provide a permanent pathway to lawful permanent residence (LPR) for individuals who have lived continuously in the United States for at least seven years. We respectfully urge you to cosponsor this bill and join in advancing its passage.

The Act updates and modernizes the long-standing "registry" mechanism within the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA). The underlying language for the registry has not been revised in over 50 years and currently applies only to individuals who arrived before 1972. By expanding eligibility, the Act would finally allow long-term residents, including many visa holders waiting decades for priority dates, to adjust their status to LPR without further delay.

Here in San Pablo, our City has worked hard to develop and ensure a relationship of community trust and partnership with our large immigrant community. The very fabric of our City is interwoven with residents from diverse backgrounds, representing many races and ethnicities that come from a wide range of origins. In fact, San Pablo has 39.5% of its total population designated as foreign-born, with 58.4% of these foreign-born residents designated as an undocumented population under the 2022 US Census/ACS Survey.¹

These neighbors are integral to the fabric of our local community, and their hard work and dedication should be recognized through a fair and accessible pathway to permanent status.

¹ Source: US Census figures, ACS 2022, 5-year Estimates

Attachment: City Council Resolution #2017-045

Honorable U.S. Congressional Representative Garamendi (D-8th)
Re: H.R. 4696 LEGISLATION, CO-SPONSOR REQUEST FROM THE CITY OF SAN PABLO
October 15, 2025
Page 2

We urge you to co-sponsor H.R. 4696 and support this practical and overdue reform that would strengthen our communities, stabilize families, and honor the contributions of long-term residents who call this country home.

Thank you for your consideration and for your continued service to our 8th District.

Sincerely,

Arturo Cruz, Mayor City of San Pablo

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cc: San Pablo City Council

City Manager City Attorney

Assistant City Manager

Police Chief

Honorable U.S. Congressional Representative Garamendi (D-8th)

Re: H.R. 4696 LEGISLATION, CO-SPONSOR REQUEST FROM THE CITY OF SAN PABLO

October 15, 2025

Page 3