



For Immediate Release

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Hispanic Women's Network of Texas Opposes Texas Senate Bill 4 to Impose Sanctions Against "Sanctuary Cities"

February 3, 2017 (Austin, Texas) Today at approximately 1am the Texas Senate's State Affairs Committee voted to advance Senate Bill 4 (SB 4), a proposal to impose sanctions against any jurisdictions or elected officials that refuse to honor federal immigration detainer requests, even though federal courts have ruled that such detainers exceed the government's limited warrantless arrest authority.

The Hispanic Women's Network of Texas (HWNT), a state-wide organization with 10 chapters of professional women throughout the State of Texas, opposes SB 4 and urges legislators to vote against this piece of legislation which will undermine local law enforcement's ability to build trust in their communities and ensure public safety as part of their defined local and state responsibilities. As an organization founded in 1986 to promote the advancement of Hispanic women in every aspect of their lives, we do not want families in our communities to experience hesitation, intimidation, or racial profiling when calling upon their local officers of the law for assistance. Immigration enforcement is first and foremost a federal responsibility. SB 4 would punish police departments by cutting critical funding needed to carry out their local law enforcement duties, which we consider irresponsible and unproductive for our Texas communities.

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About Hispanic Women's Network of Texas:

Established in 1987, HWNT is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization committed to promoting the advancement of women in public, corporate and civic life. HWNT seeks to advance the educational, cultural, social, legal and economic well-being of Hispanic women through a broader awareness of their role in society, business and family. HWNT Members strive to celebrate the positive image and values of the Hispanic culture.