

[Date]

Re: Oppose Assembly Bill 549

To Whom It May Concern,

AB 549 is a bad bill - predicated on a repeatedly debunked myth. Large sporting events DO NOT cause an increase in human trafficking.

Every year the same fake stories about sex-trafficking at major sporting events resurface. There is not a shred of evidence to support them. A simple web search or checking Snopes.com would show it is false.¹ Even the Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women has debunked it.²

It would be ironic for California (a Sanctuary state) and Los Angeles (a Sanctuary city) to collude in human rights abuses against immigrant people, migrant workers, people of color, and LGBT people at the hands of federal government agencies like Homeland Security.

If the concern is for the safety of the millions of people visiting Los Angeles during the 2026 FIFA World Cup, Super Bowl LXI 2027, the Summer Olympic Games 2028, and the Paralympic Games 2028, investigating and decertify bad law enforcement personnel would be a great place to start to address the public's safety. As a priority, the California State Department of Justice should start with investigating the killing of Linda Becerra Morán in Los Angeles by the Los Angeles Police Department who called to report that she had been kidnapped and forced to perform sex acts. Certainly, the LAPD cannot be trusted to investigate itself.

<https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2025-03-09/linda-becerra-moran-lapd-shooting>

Rather than wasting state funding that is already spent on over criminalizing commercial sex between consenting adults under the guise of rescuing victims, California Legislators should just start with holding police in their own backyards accountable. Then, suspend the enforcement of the criminalization of prostitution during these international events.

I oppose the Office of Emergency Services entering to a memoranda of understanding with the host cities and communities to implement more criminalization that will certainly target vulnerable communities under the guise of preventing human trafficking during the upcoming major sporting events in California

I urge you to oppose AB 549 too.

Sincerely, [Your Name]

[Org if applicable]

¹ "Do Prostitutes Flock to the City The Super Bowl is Held Every Year?",

<https://www.snopes.com/fact-check/super-bowl-prostitution-increase/>

² "WHAT'S THE COST OF A RUMOUR? A guide to sorting out the myths and the facts about sporting events and trafficking", <http://www.gaatw.org/publications/WhatstheCostofaRumour.11.15.2011.pdf>

