



CAIR-CA Muslim Day at the Capitol
Legislative Meeting Script



1. **Thank you for the meeting, then introductions** [POINT PERSON: _____]
 - a. Each participant will introduce himself/herself (name, region, organizational affiliation, and whether they are a constituent)

2. **Background on MDAC** [POINT PERSON: _____]
 - a. We are meeting with you today as part of the 6th Annual *Muslim Day at the Capitol* to discuss issues of importance to the California Muslim community. This event is hosted by CAIR California. CAIR is the nation's largest Muslim civil liberties group with close to 30 offices across the country. CAIR is a nonprofit organization that aims to promote justice, empower American Muslims and enhance dialogue and understanding.
 - Six years ago, at the first MDAC we had 50 participants who came from all over California. Today, we have hundreds of participants.

3. **Purpose of the Visit** [POINT PERSON: _____]
 - a. We will be presenting 4 bills to you today of key interest to the Muslim constituency in your district.
 - On all 4 bills, we are asking for your **YES** vote:
 - SB 31: Introduced by Senator Lara, which advocates against creating or supporting a Muslim registry or database.
 - SB 54: Introduced by Senator de Leon, which advocates to ensure state and local resources are not used to support mass deportations.
 - AB 158: Introduced by Assembly Member Chu, which advocates to establish uniform hate crime reporting standards for law enforcement agencies statewide.
 - AB 1318: Introduced by Assembly Member Chiu, which advocates to ensure that school employees are adequately trained to address bullying.

Discussion for Each Bill

4. **SB 31 – California Religious Freedom Act - CAIR Co-sponsoring**
 - a. **WHAT** it does: [POINT PERSON: _____]
 - Prohibits California state and local governments from initiating, participating in, or assisting with any program to create a religious list, registry, or database, or using information about people's national origin or ethnicity to achieve the same basic purpose.
 - It will prevent state and local law enforcement agencies from collecting information on the religious beliefs, practices, or affiliations of an individual except under certain circumstances.
 - b. **WHY** support? [POINT PERSON: _____]
(Be sure to note why this policy matters to you or impacts you or your family.)
 - History has demonstrated that registries based on religious affiliation and national origin are not effective law enforcement or anti-terrorism tools.
 - After 9/11, the federal government launched the National Security Entry-Exit Registration System (NSEERS). Under this program, 80,000 individuals underwent registration, including several thousand who were subjected to interrogation, detention and in some instances, deportation. There is no evidence that NSEERS led to any terrorism-related arrests or convictions.
 - c. **The ASK (see the reporting sheet):** [POINT PERSON: _____]

- *Can we count on your support for SB 31?*

5. SB 54 – California Values Act

- a. WHAT it does: [POINT PERSON: _____]
- Prohibits state and local law enforcement agencies, school police, and security departments from investigating, interrogating, detaining, detecting, or arresting persons for immigration enforcement purposes.
 - Requires California schools, health facilities, and courthouses to remain safe and accessible to all California residents, regardless of immigration status.
- b. WHY support: [POINT PERSON: _____]
(Be sure to note why this policy matters to you or impacts you or your family.)
- The Trump administration has set immigration priorities to enlist local law enforcement as immigration enforcers. In February of 2017, more than 160 people were arrested and detained in ICE raids conducted throughout Southern California.
 - Trust between California's immigrant residents and state and local agencies, including police, schools, and hospitals, is crucial to carrying out basic state and local services.
- c. **The ASK (see the reporting sheets):** [POINT PERSON: _____]
- *Can we count on your support for SB 54?*

6. AB 158 - Hate Crime Reporting Guidelines

- a. WHAT it does: [POINT PERSON: _____]
- Establishes uniform hate crime reporting standards for law enforcement agencies statewide. Including:
 - Correspondence over the internet
 - Direct or indirect verbal communication
 - Intimidation with a prop or object
 - Vandalism
 - Requires the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training to develop, on or before January 1, 2019, statewide hate crime reporting guidelines to be implemented by all law enforcement agencies.
- b. WHY support? POINT PERSON: _____
(Be sure to note why this policy matters to you or impacts you or your family.)
- According to the FBI's 2015 *Hate Crime Statistics* report, there were 257 reports of assaults, attacks on mosques and other hate crimes against Muslims last year, a jump of about 67% over 2014, the highest total since 9/11.
- c. **The ASK (see the reporting sheets):** [POINT PERSON: _____]
- *Can we count on your support for AB 158?*

7. AB 1318 - Safe Place to Learn Act - CAIR Co-sponsoring

- a. WHAT it does: [POINT PERSON: _____]
- This bill will strengthen current law, which addresses discrimination, harassment, intimidation and bullying based on actual or perceived characteristics of a student.

- Requires certified school employees serving grades 7-12 to receive training on tools and methods to address intergroup conflict.
- Requires all incidents of discrimination, intimidation, harassment and bullying, including perceived motivation, and the local education agency's responses to be reported to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

b. WHY support? [POINT PERSON: _____]

(Be sure to note why this policy matters to you or impacts you or your family.)

- In 2014, the Council on American-Islamic Relations, California Chapter (CAIR-CA) surveyed 621 students. Of the American Muslims students surveyed, 55% reported being subjected to some form of bullying while attending California public schools.
- The Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC), which has been tracking bias-related incidents throughout the country, found that 1,094 incidents occurred in the month following the 2016 Presidential election. According to the SPLC, a majority of the incidents reported to them nationwide in the ten days following the election had occurred at schools.

c. **The ASK (see the reporting sheets):** [POINT PERSON: _____]

- *Can we count on your support for AB 1318?*

8. **Next steps:** [POINT PERSON: _____]

- Thank them** for the meeting.
- Leave behind the 2nd CAIR folder with the fact sheets.
- Collect your elected official's contact information.

Notes: