

August 29, 2025

Re: Strong Opposition to AB 495 – The “Stranger Danger” Bill

Dear Senators,

I am writing in strong and urgent opposition to AB 495, Assembly Member Celeste Rodriguez bill. This bill so dangerously written that it opens the door by creating loopholes for child predators, traffickers, and strangers to legally take custody of children without a parent’s knowledge or consent. If passed, this legislation will endanger every child in California.

Please vote NO on AB 495.

This bill is a direct threat to child safety and parental authority.

Why AB 495 is dangerous:

- **ANY ADULT** – a coach, neighbor, distant friend, distant relative - could claim all authority over a child and take a “caregiver” status.
- **NO SAFEGUARDS:** No court oversight. No parental consent. No background checks. No verification whatsoever!
- **TOTAL AUTHORITY:** Virtual strangers could enroll a child in school, approve medical or mental health treatments (including irreversible procedures), and consent to sex change procedures - all without a parent’s knowledge.
- **NO ACCOUNTABILITY:** Schools, doctors, and daycares are not required to verify the identity of the newly appointed “caregiver” and face no liability if a child is released to the wrong person.
- **UNNECESSARY:** California already has safe, court-supervised processes for temporary guardianship in emergencies. AB 495 tears those protections down, replacing them with a simple form that can be exploited by predators and traffickers.

As attorney Nicole Pearson stated during legislative testimony:

*“California wants to let someone who is not related to your child remove her from school, enroll her in any other school in the state, authorize any medical treatment of her, including mental health services and drugs, without the parents’ notice, knowledge, or consent. This is not fearmongering. **These unintended consequences are terrifying, and they are unavoidable.**”*

Protect children. Protect Family. Do the right thing. Reject AB 495.

Sincerely,

[Name]

[Address]

[Phone]