



April 8, 2026

The Honorable Rhodesia Ransom, Chair  
Assembly Emergency Management Committee  
State Capitol, Room 444  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 1836 (Gabriel) California State Nonprofit Security Grant Program - SUPPORT**

Dear Chair Ransom and Members of the Assembly Emergency Management Committee,

The California Catholic Conference (CCC) is pleased to express its support for **AB 1836**, as amended on 3/19/26, which strengthens and expands the California State Nonprofit Security Grant Program to include protections for nonprofit-hosted events.

The bishops of California have long affirmed the importance of ensuring that all individuals can gather, worship, learn, and serve in environments that are safe and free from the threat of violence or hate. At a time when many nonprofit organizations, including faith-based institutions, continue to face increased risks, this program plays a critical role in safeguarding communities across our state.

AB 1836 builds upon a program that has already proven to be effective and impactful. The California Catholic Conference has consistently supported the California State Nonprofit Security Grant Program, and all 12 Catholic dioceses, which together represent over 12 million Catholics in California, have participated, using these funds to enhance safety and preparedness. Expanding eligibility to include on-site and off-site events, as well as ensuring access for organizations without a permanent physical location, reflects the evolving ways communities gather and engage.

This legislation aligns with Catholic social teaching, particularly the call to uphold human dignity and promote the common good. Providing resources to protect nonprofit spaces and events ensures that individuals, regardless of background or belief, can participate in community life without fear. It also reflects a broader commitment to solidarity, recognizing that the safety of one community is tied to the safety of all.

Assemblymember Gabriel recognizes the importance of continued investment in programs that protect places of service, education, and worship. AB 1836 is a thoughtful and necessary expansion that strengthens California's commitment to the safety and well-being of all its communities.

For these reasons, as the official public policy voice of the Catholic Church in California, we urge you to vote "AYE" on AB 1836. Should you have any questions regarding our position, please do not hesitate to contact Samara Palko, Director of Education, at 916-477-00631 or [spalko@cacatholic.org](mailto:spalko@cacatholic.org).

Sincerely yours,

Kathleen Domingo  
Executive Director

KD:SP:mip