

California State Senate

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SENATOR
JERRY MCNERNEY
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ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY

April 24, 2025

Honorable Kristi Noem
Secretary of Homeland Security
Department of Homeland Security
2707 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave. SE
Washington, DC 20528

William Lothrop
Acting Director
Federal Bureau of Prisons
320 First Street, NW
Washington, DC 20534

Subject: Opposition to the Use of FCI, Dublin as an ICE Detention Facility

Dear Secretary of Homeland Security Noem and Acting Director Lothrop

I am writing to strongly oppose the potential use of the former Federal Correctional Institution (FCI), Dublin as an Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detention facility. Using this facility for immigration detention raises significant concerns regarding safety, infrastructure, and the well-being of the surrounding community and those who would be housed at the facility.

In fact, the Bureau of Prisons has already determined that FCI, Dublin is unfit for active service. FCI, Dublin has severe issues, including asbestos and mold contamination, making it a health hazard for any individuals detained there, as well as for staff. If it does not meet the standards for a federal prison, it should not be repurposed for immigration detention.

Additionally, FCI, Dublin, which is located in my state Senate district, lacks the necessary infrastructure to facilitate immigration enforcement or processing for detainees. Unlike other immigration detention centers, it was not built to support the legal, medical, and logistical needs of individuals undergoing immigration proceedings.

Furthermore, FCI, Dublin is a minimum-security facility situated in a residential community. Converting it to an ICE detention center would disrupt the local area and raise concerns about the impact on nearby residents. Detention facilities require extensive infrastructure and security measures that could negatively impact the surrounding community.

As a former longtime member of Congress, I agree with my former colleagues, Representatives Mark DeSaulnier and Zoe Lofgren, who have voiced strong opposition to this idea. Their concerns align with those of community members and advocacy

groups who recognize that this facility is not suitable for immigration detention. Their opposition reflects the broader consensus that any such idea should not be pursued.

I join with them in respectfully urging ICE and the federal administration to abandon any plans to use FCI, Dublin as an immigration detention facility. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jerry McNerney". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end of the name.

Jerry McNerney
California State Senator, District 5