Dear Neighbor,

As your United States Representative, I work every day to uphold and protect the values that we hold dear on the central coast of California. When the Trump Administration implemented its zero tolerance policy for unlawful border crossings, including asylum appeals, I urged the Administration to end these practices. I believe this policy goes against what we stand for in our community and country.

Last Tuesday, I co-introduced the Keep Families Together Act, H.R. 6135, which would protect children from being needlessly separated from their parents. The legislation prohibits arbitrary separation of children and parents, establishes a family unity preference, discourages the separation of siblings, and requires development of reunification policies and procedures. Read more about it here.

Last Wednesday, President Trump signed an Executive Order to end his self-imposed family separation policy, but did not end the overall zero tolerance policy. I will continue to work with my colleagues, Democrats and Republicans, to construct comprehensive, compassionate immigration reform legislation that will stop the Administration’s zero tolerance policy.
Watch my remarks on the steps of the U.S. Capitol on the Keep Families Together Act.

If you would like to get similar updates in the future, please sign up for newsletters by clicking here.

If you have any questions or issues that I can help you with, please call or contact my Congressional offices in Salinas, Santa Cruz, or Washington, D.C. or through https://panetta.house.gov, for more information about legislation, votes cast in the U.S. House of Representatives, or the legislative process. Please do not hesitate to reach out and let me know how I can continue to serve you.

Sincerely,

JIMMY PANETTA
Member of Congress