FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Jewish Community of the Bay Area joins national statement condemning the passage of Arizona SB 1070 into law, calls for a national push for comprehensive immigration reform

The Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) of San Francisco, the Peninsula, Marin, Sonoma, Alameda, and Contra Costa Counties, representing over 70 Bay Area Jewish organizations and synagogues, joined six other JCRCs and over 50 other Jewish community organizations from around the country in sending a letter to the White House, Congress, and Arizona officials condemning the passage of Arizona law SB 1070: Immigration, Law Enforcement, and Safe Neighborhoods Act on April 23, 2010, and calling for comprehensive immigration reform.

JCRC President Ruvim Braude stated “We understand the concern for the safety of the people of Arizona and the security of the United States, but we do not agree with the methods laid out in this new law. As an organization that is dedicated to building bridges between faith and ethnic communities, we are concerned that this bill will only polarize communities, encourage racial profiling, and cause a great deal of fear in the immigrant community.”

JCRC Executive Director Rabbi Douglas Kahn stated “the JCRC has a historic commitment to civil rights, social justice, and compassion. We call for national comprehensive immigration reform to happen this year which would protect the civil rights of all people, maintain family unity, and secure our borders.”

The Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) is the central public affairs and community relations arm of the organized Jewish community. Representing more than 70 congregations and Jewish institutions throughout the Bay Area, JCRC promotes a just society and a secure Jewish future.

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