

Roots Of Resistance: TPS Newsletter

✨ *Knowledge is Liberation. Resistance is Power.* ✨
We Are Building!

When we launched Roots of Resistance in September, we said education is liberation.

Since then, we've moved from vision to movement.

We've mobilized locally.
We've connected political education to action.
We've built community infrastructure.

Roots of Resistance is no longer just an idea.
It is infrastructure.

And while we organize locally, major federal decisions are unfolding that will directly impact communities like ours.

Which means we stay informed. And we show up.

In this newsletter you can expect:

What's happening in Congress

Policy explained in plain language

Why documentation requirements matter

Where we're showing up next

How to plug in locally

Join Us - Contact/Sign up Information

📖 **What's Happening Now**

Political education isn't about panic. It's about clarity.
Two federal policy areas we are watching closely:

★ The SAVE Act

The SAVE Act would require documentary proof of citizenship to register to vote in federal elections.

Supporters frame it as strengthening election integrity.

Critics argue the concern is access to documentation, not citizenship itself.

Why critics call it a barrier:

- Millions lack ready access to required documents
- ~9% of voting-age citizens lack easily accessible proof
- Replacing documents can cost time and money
- Name changes can create documentation mismatches

Political education asks:

If new documentation is required, Who absorbs the burden?
Who is most likely to face delays?
Because policy impact matters as much as policy intent.

★ Expanding ICE Funding

There are ongoing federal proposals to increase funding for Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), including expanded detention capacity and enforcement operations.

Why critics raise concern:

- ICE's annual budget has grown significantly over the past two decades, reaching billions in federal funding.
- The U.S. spends more on immigration enforcement than on all other federal criminal law enforcement agencies combined.

(Cont. on page 2)

- Increased funding expands detention capacity, even as studies show many immigrants attend court hearings when provided legal representation or community-based alternatives to detention.
- Civil rights organizations have raised concerns about due process, detention conditions, and the long-term impact on mixed-status communities.
- Critics argue that expanding detention and enforcement infrastructure may not address root causes of migration and can increase instability at the local level.

Political education asks:

When enforcement budgets grow,
What expands?
Who is most affected?
What alternatives are being
considered?

Because federal appropriations
decisions shape community realities.



What's Coming: Showing Up Where Decisions Are Made

Organizing is intentional. Here's where
we're focusing next:

 **February 17 — National Day of
Lobbying – March & Rally**

- Lobbying is not reserved for corporations.
- It is a democratic tool — and we will use it.

 Register / Get Details Here:
<https://www.mobilize.us/mobilize/event/900045/>

 **February 27 — 4th Annual
Legislative Affairs Breakfast**
 9:30 AM | Hartnell College

We plan to show up respectfully as the breakfast concludes in hopes of engaging these officials and making community concerns visible. Speakers we hope to speak with include: Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren, Senator John Laird, County Superintendent Deneen Guss, and Salinas Mayor Dennis Donohue

Event details:
<https://business.salinaschamber.com/chamber-event-calendar/details/4th-annual-svcc-legislative-affairs-breakfast-1589864>

 **March 28 — No Kings Protest**

The next No Kings protest is scheduled for March 28.

This action continues resistance to authoritarian rhetoric, unchecked executive power, and policies that weaken democratic norms.

Protest is public political speech. It reminds those in power that democracy does not flow in one direction.

 More details coming soon!



Policy is debated in
Washington.

But consequences
are felt in Salinas.



Why This Matters

Roots of Resistance exists so political knowledge is not gatekept.

So people understand policy before it becomes law.

So communities are proactive — not reactive.

We do not panic. We organize.

We do not disengage. We educate.

We do not wait. We build.

Join Us!

We are stronger together
and we want you with us.
For more information or
how to get involved:

➡ Follow us on Instagram:
[@rootsofresistanceTPS](#)

➡ Visit our website:
www.rootsofresistance.net

➡ Share this newsletter
with your community

➡ Attend an upcoming
action or volunteer

➡ Contact your
representatives

This is Collective Community Work

Roots of Resistance is built between
work shifts, family life, and late-night
planning sessions.

It grows because people choose to
show up.

If you want to be part of building this
(in any capacity) we'd love to
connect.

Complete our google form if you're
interested!

<https://linktr.ee/rootsofresistanceTPS>

