

## **San Jose immigration march today still on, despite worries about flu**

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### **Body**

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A May Day **immigration march** scheduled Friday in **San Jose** part of a national push for the legalization of undocumented immigrants will proceed as scheduled, even as new swine **flu** cases emerged, and **worries about** its spread intensified.

After consulting with county public health officials, organizers said they decided to hold the **march** as planned. There is no ban **on** public gatherings now, organizers said.

"We're aware that there are concerns," said Richard Konda, executive director of the Asian Law Alliance during a news conference Thursday afternoon. "What we're telling people is the same caution from the health department: If you're sick, stay home and don't participate."

**March** organizers had initially hoped to draw as many as 10,000 to the gathering that will end at **San Jose's** City Hall, but officials acknowledged that the swine **flu** pandemic and its links to Mexico is likely to hurt attendance. By how much, is not clear.

Richard Hobbs, interim executive director of Services, Immigrant Rights, and Education Network (SIREN), said he talked with county health officials Wednesday after learning of more cases of swine **flu**.

In Texas, health and education officials cancelled all high school sports events after cases were identified in a number of school districts.

"There's no ban **on** public gatherings here," Hobbs said. "It's up to the health department. We will respect that if it happens."

The **march**, and others like it that will be held in cities across the country, hopes to draw political momentum from new U.S. Senate hearings **on immigration** reform that began Thursday.

The **San Jose march** will start at 4 p.m. at a shopping center plaza **on** the corner of King and Story Roads, and down Santa Clara Street to city hall **on** Fifth Street.

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### **Graphic**

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A woman wears a face mask as a precaution against swine flu at the Roberto Calderon hospital in Managua, Wednesday, April. 29, 2009.

Pediatrician and primary physician Dr. Ellen Rothman, left, gives Makhi Hatch, 4, an examination for his cough as his mother Stephanie Correa, center, watches on, at the St. John's Well Child and Family Center in Los Angeles Wednesday, April 29, 2009. The St. John's Well Child & Family Center, which oversees clinics that treat Los Angeles' poor and uninsured, doctors have seen a surge in patients complaining about flu-like symptoms.

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