

DIGNITY NOT DEPORTATIONS

SAY NO TO TRUMP'S MASS DEPORTATION AGENDA; END ICE CONTRACTS IN MA

H.1588 & S.1122 | Rep. Christine Barber, Rep. David Rogers & Sen. Adam Gomez

MASS DETENTION = MASS DEPORTATIONS

The Trump administration has pledged to deport millions of our friends, family members, employees, and neighbors around the country, including here in Massachusetts. **This would tear our communities apart, trample on our fundamental freedoms, and devastate our economy.**

To carry out its agenda, the Trump administration has vowed to dramatically increase immigration detention and to co-opt local officials as additional manpower. Indeed, the administration immediately issued Executive Orders that attempt to fulfill this promise. Without mass detention, there can be no mass deportation.

State officials cannot change federal immigration policy, but basic constitutional principles make clear: they don't have to voluntarily contribute to its cruelty. The Dignity Not Deportations Act will help guard against the abuse of power by federal ICE agents, ensure that our Commonwealth remains true to its values, and continue to safeguard state resources.

ICE DETENTION

ICE relies on a sprawling network of detention facilities around the country, bolstered by voluntary contracts allowing ICE to rent beds in local jails. Research shows that the availability of bed space drives ICE's arrest numbers: the more detention beds available in a given area, the more likely immigrants are to be detained and deported by ICE.

ICE detention is civil, not criminal. People held by ICE are not serving sentences — ICE simply wants to deport them.

THE BILL

The Dignity Not Deportations Act would:

- Prohibit Massachusetts entities, including sheriffs, from voluntarily renting beds to ICE.
- Prohibit Massachusetts entities from donating time and volunteering state resources to ICE by signing contracts — such as 287(g) agreements — that deputize local officials as ICE agents.

In Massachusetts, hundreds of immigrant community members are held every day at the Plymouth County Jail. Despite longstanding complaints from advocates about inhumane conditions, the sheriff recently renewed the contract with ICE, increasing the number of Massachusetts beds used to facilitate federal deportation.

Nothing in current law prohibits more sheriffs — or any other local or state entities — from renting more detention space and signing new contracts with ICE.

By limiting detention space available to ICE in state and local facilities in Massachusetts, the Dignity Not Deportations Act will limit Massachusetts' role in mass deportations.



287(G) AGREEMENTS

Mass deportation plans rely on voluntary state and local collaboration. ICE officials may seek to deputize local Massachusetts officials in order to grant them federal immigration powers through so-called “287(g) agreements” or similar arrangements.

287(g) agreements are unique in that local officials are not compensated for their time as federal deputies. The arrangement relies entirely on state and local officials voluntarily donating their time to ICE. The Massachusetts Department of Corrections is currently the only agency in New England with a 287(g) agreement.

Our Commonwealth is not required to voluntarily support ICE's ruthless federal deportation machine. Instead, Massachusetts leaders must end the existing 287(g) agreement and prohibit state agencies and sheriffs from signing new agreements.

By ending the current 287(g) agreement and outlawing new ones, Massachusetts can conserve state resources for building our Commonwealth.



**SAY NO TO MASS DEPORTATION IN MASSACHUSETTS;
PASS THE DIGNITY NOT DEPORTATIONS ACT!**