

## SUPPORT SAFE COMMUNITIES

(An Act to Protect the Civil Rights and Safety of All Massachusetts Residents)

**S.1305 and H.3269**

*From the Boston Tea Party to the anti-slavery and marriage equality movements, Massachusetts leadership has always shaped the nation's consciousness on civil rights. Today, we need to see that kind of courage on behalf of immigrants and Muslims in our communities.*

**The Safe Communities Act would protect the civil rights of all state residents by making sure our tax dollars are not used to help the Trump Administration deport immigrant families or create a Muslim registry.** This powerful new version of the Trust Act is sponsored by State Sen. Jamie Eldridge (S.1305) and State Rep. Juana Matías (H.3269).

### KEY FEATURES OF THE SAFE COMMUNITIES ACT

1. **Prohibits state support for any Muslim registry.** Prohibits law enforcement agencies and the Registry of Motor Vehicles from allowing access to databases or records for enforcement of any federal registry program based on national origin, religion or other protected characteristics.
2. **Ensures Basic Due Process Rights** for immigrants detained in state and local facilities. Requires informing detainees - in a language they understand - that they have the right to decline an interview with ICE agents, and to have their own attorney present (at their own expense) if they so choose.
3. **Ensures that police resources are used to fight crime, not separate families.** Ensures that state, local and campus police don't participate in federal immigration enforcement activities, including participation in inquiries, investigations, raids, arrests or detentions that are based solely on immigration status. ***When police become ICE agents, immigrant victims and witnesses of crime are afraid to call police, which makes us all less safe.***<sup>1</sup>
4. **Prohibits collaboration agreements** between the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and law enforcement agencies that deputize state and local officers as immigration agents, like those recently concluded by Bristol and Plymouth counties.
5. **Upholds constitutional standards.** The bill puts citizens and non-citizens on equal footing with respect to law enforcement. It would **not** prevent police from arresting or detaining a person in the course of a criminal investigation or prosecution supported by probable cause of a crime, which is consistent with constitutional standards applicable to all people in the Commonwealth.
6. **Conforms to federal law.** The bill contains several provisions ensuring compliance with federal law, specifically 8 U.S.C. § 1373, which prohibits state and local governments from restricting the exchange of information about citizenship or immigration status.

<sup>1</sup> For example, immigrant state residents are historically twice as likely to be victims of domestic violence homicide than are the native born, in large part because they fear separation from children or other family members through deportation. Most MA immigrant families are "mixed status" families – which means that different members have different statuses. Most have U.S. citizen children.

## Safe Communities Act – Endorsing Organizations (In Process)

### **Civil Rights & Social/Economic Justice**

Alliance for Immigration Justice  
American Civil Liberties Union of MA  
American Jewish Committee  
Anti-Defamation League, New England  
Black and Pink  
Boston Workmen's Circle  
Coalition for Social Justice  
Committee in Solidarity with the People  
of El Salvador  
Council on American-Islamic Relations of MA  
Digital Fourth / Restore the Fourth – Boston  
Indivisible Cape Cod & Somerville  
Jewish Alliance for Law and Social Action  
Jewish Community Relations Council  
Massachusetts Transgender Political  
Coalition  
Muslim Justice League  
Pathways to Justice – Indivisible  
Oxfam America  
September 11th Families for Peaceful  
Tomorrows  
Showing Up for Racial Justice, Boston  
Unitarian Universalist Service Committee  
United for Justice with Peace  
White People in North Central Mass  
Committed to Racial Justice

### **Community**

Agencia ALPHA  
Alliance for Immigration Justice  
Association of Haitian Women in Boston  
B\*d\*ss Activists in the Pioneer Valley  
Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center  
Brazilian Women's Group  
Brazilian Worker Center  
Cape Cod Coalition for Safe Communities  
Cape Cod Women for Change  
Centro Presente  
Chelsea Collaborative  
Committee of Refugees from El Salvador  
Dominican Development Center  
Greater Lawrence Community Action Council  
Jamaica Plain Women's Alliance  
Latino Leadership Coalition  
Latinos Unidos en Massachusetts  
Lawrence Community Works  
Lynn United for Change  
Lynn Worker Center  
Merrimack Valley Project  
Neighbor to Neighbor Massachusetts  
Phillips Brooks House Association  
Point Neighborhood Association (Salem)  
Salem No Place for Hate Committee  
South Shore Action  
The African Council  
The Welcome Project  
Together North Shore  
United Neighbors of Fitchburg /  
Comité de Vecinos  
Woburn Welcomes  
Young Cape Verdean Club, Inc.  
YWCA Central MA

### **Educational**

American Federation of Teachers / MA  
East Boston Community College  
Harvard University Immigration & Refugee  
Clinical Program  
Immigrant Integration Lab at Boston  
College  
Massachusetts Coalition for Adult  
Education  
Mass Educators of English Language  
Learners  
Partnership for Democracy & Education  
Public Higher Education Network of  
Massachusetts (PHENOM)  
World Education, Inc.

### **Faith-based**

American Friends Service Committee,  
Northeast & Western Regions  
Arlington Street Church – Social Action  
Committee  
Azusa Christian Community  
Berkshire Interfaith Organizing  
Brockton Interfaith Community  
Diocese Saint Francis of Assisi, CCA  
Eitz Chayim, Cambridge  
Episcopal City Mission  
Essex County Community Organization  
First Parish in Brookline, Unitarian  
Universalist Church  
First Parish in Cambridge – Beyond Borders /  
Sin Fronteras Immigration Task Force  
Franciscan Order of Saint Joseph Cupertino  
Greater Boston Interfaith Organization  
Harvard Islamic Society  
Immigration Pastoral Center, Inc.  
Massachusetts Community Action Network  
Nauset Interfaith Association  
Sharon Interfaith Clergy Committee  
Sunday School for Jewish Studies  
Unitarian Universalist Mass Action Network

### **Labor**

1199SEIU United Healthcare Workers East,  
Massachusetts  
New England Joint Board UNITE HERE  
North Shore Labor Council  
SEIU 32BJ  
UNITE HERE Local 26

### **Legal**

American Immigration Lawyers Association,  
New England Chapter  
Community Legal Services and Counseling  
Center  
Greater Boston Legal Services  
Harvard Legal Aid Bureau  
Irish International Immigrant Center  
Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights &  
Economic Justice  
Massachusetts Law Reform Institute  
Political Asylum/Immigration Rep. Project

### **Political**

Boston Democratic Socialists of America  
Cape Cod Women for Change  
Florence Resist  
Forward MA  
Greater Boston Young Democrats  
League of Women Voters of Massachusetts  
Newton Democratic City Committee  
Our Revolution Cambridge  
Pioneer Valley Women's March  
Progressive Massachusetts  
Women for Political Action – Cambridge

### **Professional Associations**

Asian American Lawyers Association of  
Massachusetts  
Massachusetts Association of Hispanic  
Attorneys  
Massachusetts Bar Association  
National Association of Social Workers,  
Massachusetts

### **Public Health**

American Academy of Pediatrics / MA  
Clinicians for Healthy Families  
Committee of Interns and Residents/SEIU  
Healthcare  
Greater Boston Health & Law Immigrant  
Solidarity Network  
Health Care for All  
Planned Parenthood Advocacy Fund of  
Massachusetts

### **Service Providers**

Cambridge Economic Opportunity  
Committee, Inc.  
Community Economic Development Center,  
New Bedford  
Economic Mobility Pathways  
Enroot  
International Institute of New England  
Jewish Family Service of Metrowest  
Jewish Vocational Service  
Lynn Community Health Center  
Massachusetts Affordable Housing Alliance  
Massachusetts Association of Community  
Development Corporations  
Massachusetts Association of Portuguese  
Speakers  
North Shore Community Development  
Coalition, Inc.  
Rosie's Place  
Saheli, Support and Friendship for South  
Asian Women and Families

### **Sexual & Domestic Violence**

Boston Area Rape Crisis Center  
Casa Myrna Vazquez  
Jane Doe, Inc.  
REACH Beyond Domestic Violence, Inc  
Safe Passage