

## 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.

# Endorsing Organizations

(In Process)

## Community

Agencia Alpha  
Association of Haitian Women in Boston  
Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center  
Brazilian Women's Group  
Brazilian Worker Center  
Centro Presentè  
Chelsea Collaborative  
Committee of Refugees from El Salvador  
Dominican Development Center  
Jamaica Plain Women's Alliance  
Latino Leadership Coalition  
Latinos Unidos en Massachusetts  
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  
The African Council  
The Welcome Project  
Together North Shore  
United Neighbors of Fitchburg / Comite de Vecinos  
Young Cape Verdean Club, Inc.  
YWCA Central MA

## Faith-based

American Friends Service Committee, Northeast Region  
Arlington Street Church - Social Action Committee  
Brockton Interfaith Community  
Diocese Saint Francis of Assisi, CCA  
Episcopal City Mission  
Essex County Community Organization  
First Parish in Brookline, Unitarian Universalist Church  
Franciscan Order of Saint Joseph Cupertino  
Greater Boston Interfaith Organization  
Immigration Pastoral Center, Inc.  
Massachusetts Community Action Network  
Sunday School for Jewish Studies  
Unitarian Universalist Mass Action Network  
United for Justice with Peace

## Service Providers

Cambridge Economic Opportunity Committee, Inc.  
Harvard Islamic Society  
Community Economic Development Center (New Bedford)  
Economic Mobility Pathways  
Enroot  
International Institute of New England  
Irish International Immigrant Center  
Jewish Family Service of Metrowest  
Jewish Vocational Service  
Lynn Community Health Center  
Mass. Assoc. of Community Development Corporations  
Massachusetts Association of Portuguese Speakers  
North Shore Community Development Coalition, Inc.  
Rosie's Place

## Civil Rights & Social Justice

American Civil Liberties Union of MA  
American Jewish Committee  
Anti-Defamation League, New England  
Black and Pink  
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  
Jewish Alliance for Law and Social Action  
Jewish Community Relations Council  
Massachusetts Transgender Political Coalition  
Muslim Justice League  
Oxfam American  
Showing Up for Racial Justice, Boston  
Unitarian Universalist Service Committee

## Public Health

Clinicians for Healthy Families  
Health Care for All

## Domestic Violence Prevention

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

## Legal

Massachusetts Law Reform Institute  
American Immigration Lawyers Association, New England  
Greater Boston Legal Services  
Political Asylum/Immigration Representation Project

## Professional Associations

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

## Political

Boston Democratic Socialists of America  
League of Women Voters of Massachusetts  
Newton Democratic City Committee  
Progressive Massachusetts

## Educational

Harvard University Immigration & Refugee Clinical Program  
Immigrant Integration Lab at Boston College  
Massachusetts Coalition for Adult Education  
Partnership for Democracy & Education  
Public Higher Education Network of Massachusetts  
World Education, Inc.

## Labor

North Shore Labor Council  
SEIU 32BJ  
UNITE HERE Local 26