

One Week of Trump

January 27, 2025

I. Congressional Actions

Laken Riley Act

- 1) Requires mandatory detention for undocumented immigrants accused of minor crimes such as shoplifting. Cornyn amendment added assault on a police officer to list of offenses.
- 2) Grants standing to states seeking to sue the federal government over immigration policies or individual enforcement decisions

Current Status: waiting for President's signature. Will be the first bill he signs into law this term in office.

Anti-Sanctuary Bill

To provide that sanctuary jurisdictions that provide benefits to aliens who are present in the United States without lawful status under the immigration laws are ineligible for Federal funds intended to benefit such aliens.

Current Status: Still waiting on text

Violence Against Women by Immigrant Aliens Act

Makes those convicted of, or who have admitted to, crimes involved sexual assault, domestic violence, stalking, child abuse and other crimes inadmissible or deportable

Current Status: Passed by the House on January 16 (274-145).
Referred to Senate Judiciary Committee

Reconciliation

Reconciliation: Special Congressional procedure allowing for easier passage of tax and spend measures. Allows for passage with a simple majority in the Senate.

- Change, create, or repeal existing tax measures
- Change, create, or repeal existing spending measures

1 Package or 2?

- Energy, border, tax cuts, and debt ceiling
- House looking at one single package, Senate looking at 2

Current Status: House GOP is starting annual policy retreat at Trump property

2. Executive Orders

Birthright Citizenship

Would deny US citizenship when:

- 1) Mother has no status or temporary status and
- 2) Father is not a USC or LPR

Current Status: Numerous lawsuits were immediately filed. 22 states, DC & San Francisco, numerous NGOs. Seattle federal judge issued 2-week injunction until further hearings can be held. Called the move “blatantly unconstitutional.”

Expedited Removal

Allows DHS to quickly remove someone from the United States without the ever having the opportunity to see a judge. Traditionally only used within 100 miles of the border (which would include all of New England) against people who had been here at most 14 days.

Current Status: Administration immediately expanded Expedited Removal to the maximum allowable under law: Anywhere in the country against anyone who has been here less than 2 years.

Recommendation: People should carry documentation showing that they have been here at least 2 years (lease, school record, mail, medical record) as well as any evidence that they are already in processing.

Ending Parole Programs

Explicitly ending all categorical parole policies (example: CHNV) and re-aligning border policies to stop anyone from coming into the country, effectively ending parole on a case-by-case basis.

Current Status: Expect that they have already ended new grants of parole. Not clear if they will actually strip people of parole or allow it to expire without renewing. Concern that they could try to use expedited removal against people previously paroled into the country.

Refugee Resettlement

Immediate suspension of refugees into the US. Establishes policy to refugees should only be allowed into the country if they can “fully and appropriately assimilate” and preserve “taxpayer resources for its citizens.” DHS will provide reports on progress towards these policy goals every 90 days.

Current Status: Estimated 10,000 people who had already been booked on flights into the United States were blocked from boarding their flights immediately. On Friday, the administration issued a memo to refugee resettlement agencies that all grant funded actions must cease immediately.

Asylum

Shuts down entries at the southern border until Trump issues a find “that the invasion at the southern border has ceased.”
Prohibits those who do entry from making an asylum claim.

Current Status: MIRA has yet to hear what the situation on the southern border looks like since this EO.

Remain in Mexico

Reinstating the Remain in Mexico (“Migrant Protection Protocols”), forcing asylum seekers to stay in Mexico while awaiting their court hearings. This makes it increasingly difficult to put together an asylum case and also leaves asylees vulnerable to financial and violent crime.

Current Status: expecting implementation soon. Not clear how this is will interact with other policies the administration is adopting.

Enforcement

Rescinded Sensitive Locations Memo: ICE & CBP now have little restriction on where they can enforce the law. Important that school districts develop their own guidelines for how they interact with ICE.

Rescinded Priorities Memo: No longer any priorities for immigration enforcement. The working mom is just as much of a target as the human trafficker.

Raids: Hearing about various enforcement actions around the country that ICE is trying to tie to criminal activity. Advocates have little solid information yet.

If You See ICE in Public

Verify

- Confirm that they are ICE agents not a different law enforcement agency
- Pay attention to the words that appear on their uniforms

Document

- If you feel safe, take videos or photos of what the officers are doing and not how many officers are there
- Write the time, date, and the exact location of the encounter

Share

- Please share only verified information. We want our communities to be informed without spreading undue stress, fear, or anxiety in our communities.