

Support the Safe Communities Act

[S.1681](#) (Sens. Eldridge and Miranda), [H.2580](#) (Reps. Cruz and Sousa)

Because civil immigration enforcement is not our job.

The new federal administration will use every tool available to deport members of our immigrant communities, including our police and courts. This misuse of public safety resources drives a wedge between immigrant communities and the public institutions that protect and serve them. That's why the Safe Communities Act has earned the support of police chiefs and district attorneys across the state.

It's time to end the voluntary involvement of our public safety officials in civil immigration matters. The Safe Communities Act would:

Prohibit questioning by court and police officials about immigration status.

Enables immigrant workers, domestic violence survivors, tenants, and others to report exploitation, abuse and other crimes to public safety authorities without fear of immigration consequences.

Protect basic rights, just like a "Miranda" warning.

Requires our police, court and correctional personnel to obtain written, informed consent before any ICE interview of someone in their custody, to ensure that immigrants know their right to decline such interviews or to have their own attorney present. Without these safeguards, people often jeopardize their immigration cases – even signing their own deportation orders.

Protect access to justice in our courts.

Current practice encourages ICE to detain people before they have their day in court, denying justice to victims and defendants alike. The SCA prohibits police, court, and correctional officials from initiating contact with ICE about a person's pending release from custody, except at the end of a sentence of incarceration. **It does not otherwise restrict communications with ICE, in conformity with federal law.**

Prohibit agreements that deputize local officials as federal immigration agents, at state taxpayers' expense.

287(g) contracts with ICE damage the relationship between immigrant communities and law enforcement. And they are expensive. Barnstable, Bristol, and Plymouth county sheriffs have declined to continue these contracts, leaving the MA Department of Corrections as the sole outlier. Nationally, only 5 state DOCs have 287(g) contracts. The other four are Alaska, Arizona, Florida, and Georgia.

California, Connecticut, Illinois, New Jersey, Oregon, and Washington State have all enacted laws that keep local law enforcement focused on public safety, not civil immigration enforcement.

It's time Massachusetts joined them.



MASSACHUSETTS
SAFE COMMUNITIES
COALITION

STATEWIDE ENDORSING ORGANIZATIONS

ACLU of Massachusetts	Massachusetts Bar Association
Act on Massachusetts	Massachusetts Business Immigration Coalition
American Academy of Pediatrics – MA Chapter	Massachusetts Coalition for Adult Education
American College of Physicians – MA Chapter	Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women
American Friends Service Committee – New England	Massachusetts Communities Action Network
American Immigration Lawyers Assn. New England Chapter	Massachusetts High School Democrats
American Jewish Committee – New England	Massachusetts Jobs with Justice
Amnesty International USA, Boston Field Office	Massachusetts Law Reform Institute
Anti-Defamation League (ADL) New England	Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers
Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence	Massachusetts Medical Society
Association of Haitian Pastors of New England	Massachusetts Public Health Association
Better Future Project & 350 Massachusetts	Massachusetts Teachers Association
Committee for Public Counsel Services	Massachusetts Voter Table
Council on American-Islamic Relations – MA	MGH Executive Committee on Community Health
Digital Fourth	Muslim Justice League
EMPath	National Association of Social Workers – MA
Haitian American Chamber of Commerce of Massachusetts	National Organization for Women (NOW) MA
Health Care for All	New England Justice for Our Neighbors
Health Law Advocates, Inc.	Northeast Organic Farming Association – MA
Indivisible Massachusetts	Oxfam America
International Institute of New England	Planned Parenthood Advocacy Fund of Massachusetts
Jane Doe, Inc.	ProGente Connections
Jewish Alliance for Law and Social Action (JALSA)	Progressive Massachusetts
Jewish Family & Children’s Service	Project Citizenship
Jewish Voice for Peace Boston	Public Higher Education Network of Massachusetts
Justice Resource Institute	Rian Immigrant Center
Latinos Unidos de Massachusetts	SEIU 1199
Lawyers for Civil Rights	SEIU 32BJ
League of Women Voters of Massachusetts	SEIU State Council
MA Educators of English Language Learners (MATSOL)	The African Council (TAC)
MA Immigrant & Refugee Advocacy Coalition (MIRA)	Unitarian Universalist Mass Action
Massachusetts Alliance of Portuguese Speakers	Women’s Bar Association of Massachusetts
Massachusetts Asian American Commission	Young Democrats of Massachusetts

REGIONAL/LOCAL ENDORSING ORGANIZATIONS

ACLU of MA Immigrant Protection Project of Western MA	Boston Worker’s Circle
Acton Democratic Town Committee	Brazilian Women’s Group
Agencia ALPHA	Brazilian Worker Center
Alliance for Immigration Justice	Bristol County for Correctional Justice
Arlington-Teosinte Sister City Project	Brockton Interfaith Community
Association of Haitian Women in Boston	Brockton Workers Alliance
Belchertown Voices for Justice	Brookline for Racial Justice and Equity
Berkshire Interfaith Organizing	Business Innovation Center
Black and Pink	Cambridge Economic Opportunity Committee, Inc.
Boston Area Rape Crisis Center	Cambridge United for Justice with Peace
Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center	Cape Ann Local Action
Boston Democratic Socialists of America	Cape Cod Coalition for Safe Communities
Boston Immigration Justice Accompaniment Network (BIJAN)	Cape Cod Women for Change
Boston Teachers Union/Unafraid Educators	Cape Women’s Coalition

Casa Myrna Vazquez
 Chelsea Collaborative
 Central West Justice Center
 Clinicians for Healthy Families
 Coalition for Social Justice
 Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador
 Committee of Refugees from El Salvador
 Community Action Agency of Somerville
 Community Economic Development Center of SE MA
 Community Involved in Sustaining Agriculture (CISA)
 De Novo
 Democratic State Committee
 Diocese Saint Francis of Assisi CCA
 Dominican Development Center
 Dorchester People for Peace
 East Boston Neighborhood Health Center
 Easthampton Community Coalition
 Enroot
 Episcopal City Mission
 Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts
 Essex County Community Organization (ECCO)
 First Literacy
 Franciscan Order of Saint Joseph Cupertino
 FXB Center for Health and Human Rights, Harvard Univ.
 Gloucester Coalition for the Prevention of Domestic Abuse
 Greater Andover Indivisible
 Greater Boston Interfaith Organization
 Greater Boston PFLAG
 Greater Lawrence Community Action Council
 Groundwork Lawrence
 Haitian-Americans United, Inc.
 HarborCOV
 Harvard Graduate Students' Union
 Harvard Immigration and Refugee Clinical Program
 Healing Abuse Working for Change (HAWC)
 Health & Law Immigrant Solidarity Network
 Health Imperatives
 Immigrant and Refugee Health Program at BMC
 Immigrant Integration Lab at BC School of Social Work
 Immigrant Service Providers Group/Health
 Immigrants' Assistance Center
 Immigration Pastoral Center, Inc.
 Indivisible Acton Area
 Interfaith Justice Cmte-Fed Church and Am HaYam Havurah
 Ipswich Trust Act
 Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Boston
 Jewish Vocational Service
 JP Progressives Immigrant Rights Action Group
 Justice Center of Southeast Massachusetts
 La Comunidad, Inc.
 Lawrence CommunityWorks
 Lower Cape Indivisible Steering Team
 Lynn Community Health Center
 Lynn United for Change
 Lynn Worker Center
 MAPA Translations, Inc.
 Maynard Welcomes You
 Merrimack Valley Project
 MGH Chelsea HealthCare Center
 MGH Revere HealthCare Center
 Minuteman Indivisible
 Mystic Valley Indivisible
 Nauset Interfaith Association
 Needham Task Force on Immigration
 Neponset Valley Progressives
 Network for Social Justice
 New Hope, Inc.
 Newton Democratic City Committee
 Northeastern Univ. School of Law – Student Bar Association
 Old Cambridge Baptist Church
 Our Revolution Cambridge
 Our Revolution Cape Cod Affiliate (ORCCA)
 Our Revolution Somerville
 Paulist Center Immigration Advocacy Group
 Phillips Brooks House Association at Harvard
 Pioneer Valley Project
 Point Neighborhood Association
 Political Asylum & Immig. Representation Project (PAIR)
 Prgm. on Human Rts. in the Global Economy, NEU Law
 Progressive Needham
 Progressive West Roxbury/Roslindale
 Racial Justice Team, North Parish of N. Andover UU
 REACH Beyond Domestic Violence, Inc.
 Revere Immigrant Solidarity Network
 Roca, Inc.
 Rosie's Place
 Roslindale is for Everyone (RISE)
 Saheli, Support and Friendship for So. Asian Women & Families
 Salem No Place for Hate Committee
 September 11th Families for Peaceful Tomorrow
 Showing Up for Racial Justice – North Central Massachusetts
 Sisters of Saint Joseph of Boston
 Sneakers Laced Up South Shore
 Social and Racial Justice at St. Cecilia's Parish
 Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Fall River Diocesan and the
 Attleboro District Councils
 Solidarity Lowell
 South Shore Action
 St. Stephen's Youth Programs
 Student Clinic For Immigrant Justice (SCIJ)
 Temple Aliya Social Action
 Temple Beth Shalom Tzedek Committee
 Temple Sinai Social Justice Comte / Sharon Interfaith Action
 The Real Cost of Prisons Project
 The Resistance Center for Peace and Justice
 The Right to Immigration Institute
 The Unitarian Universalist Society of Fairhaven
 The Welcome Project
 Three Rivers Affinity Group(TRAG)
 UFCW Local 1445
 United American Indians of New England (UAINE)
 United Interfaith Action of Southeastern MA
 WATCH CDC
 Watertown Citizens for Peace
 Westport Friends Meeting Quakers
 Women Encouraging Empowerment (WEE)
 Worcester Interfaith
 Young Cape Verdean Club, Inc.
 YWCA Cambridge
 YWCA Central Massachusetts