

Contact your Representatives in Beacon Hill

- Ask them to support the Safe Communities Act provisions in the budget
- Ask them to denounce planned ICE raids of places of work and ICE arrests at government buildings

Contact your Representatives in Congress

- Thank them for their visit to the Trump Camps and ask them to keep fighting to reunite separated families
- Ask them to #AbolishICE by cutting funding and support for the agency

Call Governor Baker

- Tell him NOT to veto Amendment 1147 (key provisions of the Safe Communities Act), Immigrant groups and police chiefs agree: these provisions will keep the Commonwealth safer for everyone! **(617) 725-4005**

Call the Department of Justice comment line

- Let Jeff Sessions know that the American Public does not support this inhumane policy **(202) 353-1555**

Donate to organizations supporting immigrants and asylum seekers

- ActBlue has a page dedicated to these organizations actblue.com/donate/kidsattheborder

Educate yourself

- Learn all you can about immigration and spread the knowledge to your friends and family on social media

*** Open for more information and resources ***

Open Here

Este material esta en Inglés, también disponible en Español.

What you can do to help immigrant families in Mass and at the border



What is the Safe Communities Act? What does it have to do with family separations? What is Amendment 1147?

The Safe Communities Act is a bill that was introduced last year to defend the rights of immigrants in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and improve safety for all residents. It would prevent state tax dollars from being spent on Trump's anti-immigrant agenda through 287G agreements. It defends and upholds due process for all, including informing detainees that they do not have to speak to ICE and have the right to a lawyer. It improves safety for all by preventing police from asking about immigration status, ensuring that immigrants with any status are free to call 911 and report crimes or suspicious activity without fear of deportation.

After a challenging run through the state house, the Safe Communities Act appears to be dead on arrival. However, three key provisions (blocking 287G agreements, upholding due process, and police not asking about status) have survived as an amendment to the budget: Amendment 1147. This can be passed right now, if our representatives will fight for it!

The Safe Communities Act and its successor, Amendment 1147, will help families stay together in our Commonwealth. Many immigrant families have children who were born in the United States, meaning deportation proceedings can rip a child away from their parents.

Didn't Obama do this? Wasn't it just as bad under Obama?

Yes, the situation for immigrants to the US has been bad for a very long time, and immigrant rights groups have been trying to sound the alarm on this for a long time. It is now worse than it was under Obama or at any other time in living memory. Obama did not instruct ICE to detain asylum seekers going through the correct process under international law. He did not make it a policy to separate families that arrived together at the border. These are new and terrible things. While we are fighting to end these new policies, we should also work towards correcting the mistakes of the past.

What bills can we support to protect immigrants and asylum seekers?

Where are Massachusetts legislators on this?

In the Senate:

Feinstein's Keep Families Together Act (S.3036) - Unanimous MA co-sponsorship

Hirono's Fair Day in Court for Kids Act of 2018 (S. 2468) Unanimous MA co-sponsorship

In the House

Keep Families Together Act (HR.6135) Unanimous MA co-sponsorship

On Beacon Hill

Eldridge's and Matías' Safe Communities Act (S.1305)

Massachusetts House Joint Conference Committee (amendment 1147)

Call your State Senator and State Representative and urge them to support immigrants!