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CEO AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
TOM COCHRAN



THE UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF MAYORS

May 18, 2026

Dear Senator,

I write on behalf of the nation's mayors out of deep concern that ICE and CBP will again be funded at unprecedented levels to carry out mass arrests, detentions and deportations without any requirements to reform their procedures. Failing to secure such commitments would leave our residents and cities vulnerable to actions that threaten community safety and undermine public trust.

It is clear that the second reconciliation bill under consideration would provide additional funding for federal immigration enforcement through FY 2029 on top of what last year's reconciliation bill provided for the same purpose. Funding ICE and CBP at such high levels without accompanying commitments to reform their practices would be a tragic outcome.

In March, the U.S. Conference of Mayors adopted an [emergency resolution](#) urging all federal law enforcement agencies to model the professionalism and care that we expect from our local law enforcement agencies. Specifically, the resolution called on the Department of Homeland Security to immediately require ICE and other federal agents to:

- Stop wearing face masks and military-style uniforms;
- Visibly display their agency, ID number and last name on their uniforms;
- Use body-worn and vehicle cameras when interacting with the public and require the storage and access of footage recorded;
- Reinstate ICE's sensitive locations policy to prohibit immigration actions at schools, hospitals, institutions of worship, courts, polling locations on election day, and other such locations;
- Stop conducting stops, questioning and searches based on an individual's presence at certain locations, their job, their spoken language and accent or their race and ethnicity; and
- Have a judicial warrant before entering publicly owned facilities or private property to pursue individuals, thus helping to end indiscriminate arrests.

Most Americans have serious concerns about the way immigration enforcement is being conducted in this country, as do America's mayors and many state and local law enforcement leaders. As you consider providing even more money for immigration enforcement, we urge you to use this moment to find a way to require DHS to institute these badly needed reforms now.

Sincerely,

Tom Cochran
CEO and Executive Director