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CEO AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

TOM COCHRAN



THE UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF MAYORS

June 4, 2026

Dear Senator,

I write on behalf of America's mayors to register our strong opposition to a dangerous new provision that suddenly appeared yesterday in the reconciliation bill the Senate is considering this week. This provision would provide ICE with \$350 million to launch enforcement actions in jurisdictions considered to be "non-cooperating" with the agency and empower ICE to arrest, detain and deport a broadly defined group of immigrants in these cities and states.

Cities targeted could include those that do not have 287(g) agreements or have not filed a certificate of compliance with federal laws that prohibit limitations on communication between local law enforcement and DHS.

Immigrants targeted could include any person ever charged with unauthorized entry or reentry (regardless of whether the charges were dismissed or their current status) and any person under an ICE detainer after an arrest for any offense other than a minor traffic charge. The provision would prohibit ICE from using any of the funds to release any of these immigrants, except as required by law, thus subjecting them to prolonged detention.

This provision has the potential to wreak havoc in cities across the country. It could lead to retaliatory ICE surges in jurisdictions that fail to satisfy administration demands – surges that would strike fear in immigrant communities and lead to demonstrations in cities across the country.

Public safety is the top priority for mayors. This provision will weaken public safety and weaken our cities, our states and our nation. We urge you to remove it from the reconciliation bill as quickly as it was inserted.

Sincerely,

Tom Cochran
CEO and Executive Director