

# MASSACHUSETTS SAFE COMMUNITIES COALITION

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In Trump's America, doing nothing is not an option.

## PROTECT IMMIGRANTS NOW!

We CAN Pass Key Safe Communities Protections this year!

### 1. NO POLICE INQUIRIES ABOUT IMMIGRATION STATUS



**We can prohibit law enforcement agencies from inquiring about a person's immigration status unless required by law.**

- The current climate makes immigrants vulnerable to exploitation and crime - domestic violence, wage theft, housing code violations, and other offenses go unreported because of fears that contact with police will lead to deportation and separation from family members, especially children.

### 2. STOP COLLABORATING WITH ICE

**We can prohibit state and local contracts with ICE - like 287(g) - that deputize law enforcement with the powers to enforce federal immigration law at state expense.**

- A cornerstone of Trump's expansive deportation project, these costly agreements co-opt public safety resources for immigration enforcement, and undermine community confidence in law enforcement.



### 3. PROVIDE BASIC DUE PROCESS PROTECTIONS



**When ICE wants to interview someone in police custody, we can require police to inform that person of their right to decline an ICE interview or to have their own attorney present.**

- Noncitizens are often unaware that they have these rights. "Miranda" warnings are not constitutionally required to be given for civil immigration violations.
- Our jails are a major entry point into the deportation pipeline. Without these protections, people charged with minor offenses lose the right to challenge their deportation.

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## **PASS PROTECTIONS FOR MASSACHUSETTS IMMIGRANTS THIS YEAR!**

The original Safe Communities Act is unlikely to advance this session, and the compromise House bill HD.4603 (or COPPS), which would end the protections we have gained from the *Commonwealth v. Lunn* decision, raised too many concerns to win the Coalition's support. Still:

**Doing nothing to protect immigrants in the Trump era is unacceptable. State legislators must find a way THIS YEAR to advance key protections for immigrants, through the budget or other legislative means.**

**THREE overlooked provisions of the Safe Communities Act have broad public support, and extend critical protections to all immigrants regardless of status.** (See reverse for 3 provisions)

**ALL THREE were included in the original Safe Communities Act – AND in the compromise bill recently endorsed by the two Massachusetts police chief associations.**

**ALL THREE comply with federal law.** Federal law prohibits limiting communications between local and federal agencies about immigration status. It does *not* require local law enforcement to collect this information.

## **WHY WE NEED THESE PROTECTIONS**

**Now more than ever, we need to send a powerful message to immigrant communities that in Massachusetts, our government serves and protects all state residents, regardless of their immigration status or where they come from.**

**Immigrant state residents must be able to call 911, contact police, and get needed medical care without fearing separation from family members through deportation.**

**We can't stop ICE from breaking up immigrant families in our state.**

**But we don't have to help them do it.**