

# **DEFEND AMERICA**

## **ACTION**

Dear Senate Majority Leader John Thune and House Speaker Mike Johnson:

We write to you as state legislators representing millions of Americans across this nation. We represent families from all walks of life, united by a single urgent concern: the transformation of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) into an unaccountable paramilitary force that threatens the constitutional rights and safety of the communities we serve.

Since September, ICE agents have shot [at least thirteen](#) people during enforcement operations. Multiple people have been killed, most notably Renee Good and Alex Pretti, Americans whose lives mattered and whose deaths demand accountability. Unfortunately, these are not isolated incidents. They represent a pattern of escalating violence carried out by agents operating without meaningful oversight or adherence to basic constitutional principles. Beyond these shootings, [thirty-two people](#) died in ICE detention and custody in 2025 alone, a staggering toll that underscores a broader crisis of disregard for human life.

This crisis did not happen by accident. It is the direct result of conscious choices made by President Trump and congressional Republicans to strip away the guardrails that once constrained federal law enforcement. You have enabled ICE to operate as though American neighborhoods are enemy territory, as though agents have total immunity to violate our constituents' rights. And while communities across America live in fear, the President focuses on his golden ballroom and personal monuments, utterly disconnected from the terror his policies have unleashed.

The harms are specific and devastating. Masked agents conduct warrantless home invasions, bursting into residences without judicial authorization. They patrol our streets in roving squads, treating American cities like occupied zones. Local businesses have reported [massive drops](#) in sales as residents become afraid to leave their homes, go to work, or take their children to school. The economic and social fabric of our communities is being shredded.

The American people know this is not what America is supposed to be; [more than 60 percent](#) now disapprove of how ICE is handling its job, a decisive rejection of these tactics. Our constituents did not elect us to stand by while federal agents terrorize neighborhoods and trample constitutional rights.

Let us be clear: this is not about preventing immigration enforcement. This is about basic accountability and adherence to the Constitution. No federal agency should operate above the law. No agents should conduct themselves in ways that would be unacceptable for any other law enforcement body in America.

We call on you to enact four essential reforms immediately:

First, require warrants for enforcement actions. The Fourth Amendment exists for a reason. If there is probable cause, obtaining a warrant is a minor procedural step. If there is no probable cause, the action should not proceed.

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Second, end roving patrols in American cities. Targeted enforcement based on specific intelligence is legitimate; treating entire neighborhoods as hunting grounds is not.

Third, agents must not wear masks during operations. Instead, they must wear body cameras to capture all of their interactions with civilians. ICE will never regain the public trust without them, and anonymous, unaccountable enforcement is the hallmark of authoritarian regimes, not democratic republics.

Fourth, establish a universal code of conduct with clear rules of engagement. Every law enforcement agency in America operates under such guidelines. ICE cannot be an exception.

These reforms represent the bare minimum necessary to restore constitutional order and public trust. The current situation is unsustainable and un-American. Every day you delay, more damage is done to communities, to businesses, to families, and to America's fundamental character.

For the sake of our constituents and our country, we urge you to act immediately.

Signed,

Rep. Anna Eskamani, Florida

Rep. Shea Roberts, Georgia

Rep. Terry Cummings, Georgia

Sen. Cathy Kipp, Colorado

Sen. Lakesia Collins, Illinois

Sen. Laura Fine, Illinois

Rep. Graciela Guzmán, Illinois

Rep. Ken Crocken, Iowa

Rep. Art Staed, Iowa

Rep. Mary Lou Marzian, Kentucky

Rep. Gary Friedmann, Maine

Rep. Marc Malon, Maine

Rep. Matthew Beck, Maine

Rep. Sean Faircloth, Maine

Sen. Rachel Talbot Ross, Maine

Rep. Tavis Hasenfus, Maine

Del. Sandy Bartlett, Maryland

Del. Dylan Behler, Maryland

Del. Kris Fair, Maryland

Del. Julian Ivey, Maryland

Del. Lorig Charkoudian, Maryland

Del. Ashanti Martinez, Maryland

Del. Teresa Worman, Maryland

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Rep. Stephen Wooden, Michigan  
Sen. Andrea Olson, Montana  
Rep. Howard Watts, Nevada  
Rep. Suraj Budathoki, New Hampshire  
Rep. Thomas Cormen, New Hampshire  
Rep. Susan Elberger, New Hampshire  
Rep. James Gruber, New Hampshire  
Rep. Timothy Horrigan, New Hampshire  
Rep. Jessica LaMontagne, New Hampshire  
Rep. Christal Lloyd, New Hampshire  
Rep. Kris Schultz, New Hampshire  
Rep. Dana Levenberg, New York  
Rep. Jo Anne Simon, New York  
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Sen. Tim Mathern, North Dakota  
Rep. Alma Allen, Texas  
Rep. Rhetta Bowers, Texas  
Rep. John Bryant, Texas  
Rep. John Bucy III, Texas  
Rep. Elizabeth Campos, Texas  
Rep. Josey Garcia, Texas  
Rep. Vikki Goodwin, Texas  
Rep. Anna Johnson, Texas  
Rep. Charlene Ward Johnson, Texas  
Rep. Terry Meza, Texas  
Rep. Eddie Morales, Texas  
Rep. Christina Morales, Texas  
Rep. Gene Wu, Texas  
Rep. Ron Reynolds, Texas  
Rep. Jon Rosenthal, Texas  
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Rep. Chris Turner, Texas  
Rep. Armando Walle, Texas  
Rep. Erin Zwiener, Texas  
Rep. Jessica González, Texas  
Rep. James Talarico, Texas  
Rep. Rosalba Dominguez, Utah  
Rep. William Greer, Vermont