

PASS THE DIGNITY FOR DETAINED IMMIGRANTS ACT



Dear Senators and Representative:

As your constituent, I write to urge you to support the Dignity for Detained Immigrants Act and move it forward for markup and a floor vote.

The Dignity for Detained Immigrants Act sets out a vision and framework for reform, with a dramatic reduction in the use of detention and a shift towards humane and cost-effective strategies that have been demonstrated to work.

The mass detention of immigrants and asylum-seekers is inhumane, poses a danger to the health of individuals and staff in detention, and contravenes the U.S.'s legal and policy commitments with respect to due process, human rights, and racial justice. Black and brown immigrants make up the overwhelming majority of those detained by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

This punitive system not only violates the U.S.'s legal obligations, including as they pertain to the protection of human rights, it is also unnecessary. Community-based programs, which provide greater access to legal counsel and case management, have been highly successful in providing people with support to navigate their immigration court proceedings. A network of community support for immigrants and asylum-seekers navigating the immigration system already exists and easily can be expanded.

The Dignity for Detained Immigrants Act centers those community support alternatives, while ending mandatory detention, restoring due process, eliminating the use of private prison companies and contracts with local and state jails for immigration detention, and protecting parents, caregivers, and people who are at-risk from the threat of detention. It is a significant step toward building greater oversight and accountability to protect the human rights of immigrants and asylum-seekers.

The time for Congress to act is now. I urge you to support the passage of the Dignity for Detained Immigrants Act to protect the human rights of immigrants and asylum-seekers. It is past time to end the horrors of our current system and the harm it inflicts.

PRINT NAME:	SIGNATURE:	CITY, STATE	EMAIL*

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