

INVEST IN OUR COMMUNITIES:



VOTE NO ON RECONCILIATION BILL THAT WILL DECIMATE COMMUNITY FUNDING TO SEND BILLIONS TO CRUEL BORDER POLICIES AND MASS DEPORTATION

All Members of Congress must stand against the attacks on immigrants and people seeking safety and defend critical funding that helps all of our communities to thrive.

Every day, millions of taxpayer dollars fuel a system that keeps tens of thousands of immigrants and people seeking safety locked up by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in a sprawling network of over 200 immigration detention facilities while they navigate complicated court proceedings behind bars. Billions more taxpayer dollars have fueled militarization and crackdowns at the border that have left thousands of people seeking safety stranded in Mexico under great threat of violence, denied their human right to seek safety in the United States, all while border communities are left without the resources they need to thrive.

In just the first few months in office, President Trump has already put the detention and deportation machine in overdrive. Americans across the country are watching raids terrorize their communities, as ICE agents have provided unfettered access to media to exacerbate the fears and bolster their racist and inaccurate talking points, threatened enforcement at schools and churches, detained people who are citizens and longtime residents, and even gone so far as covering up people's security cameras at their homes to avoid any public

accountability. Private prison companies are reaping profits as the detention of children, families, and adults skyrockets. Taxpayer dollars are being used for cruel and costly spectacles like sending people to Guantanamo Bay, diverting agents from other law enforcement agencies to engage in immigration enforcement, spreading fear in armored trucks and tactical gear in our neighborhoods, and beleaguering the already backlogged immigration courts. The Trump Administration is further revoking protections like Temporary Protected Status and humanitarian parole, leaving thousands more people without any type of status or ability to work, pay taxes, and provide for their families.

People at the border are also denied their human right to seek asylum every day, and are subjected to assault, sexual abuse, due process violations, denial of medical care, harsh detention conditions, and dehumanizing treatment. Instead of fair, orderly, and humane processing that welcomes people seeking safety, the Trump Administration has prioritized border militarization, is continuing their obsession with building a costly and lethal border wall, and reimplementing deadly policies like

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Remain in Mexico. These policies further trample on the rights of border communities as they are subjected to near constant surveillance. Most people in detention or subject to harm when arriving to the US southern border are Black people, Indigenous people, and other racialized groups, a reflection and reinforcement of systemic racism and racial inequity.

Now, Congress is moving forward with a reconciliation bill that will direct hundreds of billions of taxpayer dollars to further expand the reach of President Trump's mass deportation, mass detention, and border militarization plans. The Trump Administration wants to fund these policies that disrupt families, communities, and our local and national economy by cutting lifesaving federal programs like Social Security, Medicaid, food stamps, nutrition assistance for children, and student loans.

Communities across the country are struggling to make ends meet and they deserve better than their leaders investing billions of their hard-earned tax dollars on expensive and cruel mass deportation and deterrence efforts rather than policies and programs that will help all our communities thrive.

Members of Congress must strongly oppose any funding package that funds increased detention and mass deportations, border walls or barriers, or jumpstarts the harmful and xenophobic policies proposed by President Trump. A human-rights-centered approach is not only possible—it is the only sustainable solution to the issues facing the U.S. immigration system and the humanitarian crisis at the border.

Sending hundreds of billions of taxpayer dollars to fund the Trump Administration's anti-immigrant agenda won't make the immigration system any less broken, any less cruel, or any less deadly. Even when Congress sent funding to improve conditions in border facilities after the deaths of children at the border during Trump's first administration, those funds were diverted away from things like diapers and baby wipes to pay for things like dirt bikes and more enforcement tools.

CONGRESS MUST LISTEN AND INVEST IN COMMUNITIES

Stemming the flow of money is a critical step to protecting immigrant communities and support people seeking safety. As the decision-makers on federal funding, Congress has the responsibility to rein in these policies that tear apart families and loved ones and hurt our communities.

Members of Congress should use their power of the purse to vote NO on this absurd and cruel reconciliation package.

Cutting critical social programs like Social Security, Medicaid, food stamps, nutrition assistance for children, and student loans in order to fuel policies that disrupt communities and the economy makes no sense. Instead, our taxpayer dollars should be used to keep families together and give our communities the resources they need to thrive.

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For more information on this issue, please contact: