

# Support Safe Communities

**An Act to Protect the Civil Rights and Safety of All Massachusetts Residents**  
Sen. Eldridge, S.1305 | Rep. Matias, H.3269

*Throughout our history, Massachusetts has led the way on civil and human rights. Today, we need to stand up for our core values once again. The Safe Communities Act would protect all state residents by making sure our local tax dollars are not used to advance the Trump Administration's anti-immigrant agenda, deport community members and their families, or create a Muslim registry.*

## The Safe Communities Act:

### Focuses resources on local needs, not deportation

State and local police should use their limited resources to fight crime, not immigrant community members and their families. The bill would bar police from arresting or detaining a person *solely* for federal immigration enforcement purposes, or participating in investigations or raids based *solely* on immigration status. It would also prohibit agreements to deputize state and local officers as federal immigration agents, co-opting and taking away resources from local communities. When police act as ICE agents, victims and witnesses of crime are afraid to call for help, which makes us all less safe.

### Upholds constitutional rights and due process

The bill ensures that constitutional principles are upheld equally for citizens and non-citizens alike by requiring a warrant to arrest a person on behalf of ICE. It requires notice to immigrant detainees of their legal rights – in a language they understand.

### Prohibits state support for any Muslim registry

Prohibits Massachusetts law enforcement agencies and the RMV from providing information to any federal registry program based on religion or other protected identity.

### Strengthens our communities

Immigrants are community leaders, business owners and economic engines. Most have lived here more than 10 years. Most immigrant families have U.S. citizen children. When all residents feel welcome and safe, they participate more fully in the life of their community.



## The Safe Communities Act WILL NOT:

### It WILL NOT jeopardize federal funding to Massachusetts

The bill comports with federal law. It does not make MA a so-called “sanctuary” jurisdiction as defined by Attorney General Sessions. It expressly complies with the federal statute regarding the exchange of information about citizenship or immigration status (8 U.S.C. § 1373), and would not impact the Commonwealth’s eligibility to receive federal funding.

### It WILL NOT limit police ability to fight crime

The bill would *not* stop police from doing their everyday work, arresting people in the course of a criminal investigation, or even working together with federal agencies to fight crime. It only limits their otherwise-voluntary collaboration with immigration enforcement. This is a question of civil federal law.

# Safe Communities Act – Endorsing Organizations

Last updated 6.9.17

## **Community**

Agencia Alpha  
Association of Haitian Women in Boston  
Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center  
Brazilian Women's Group  
Brazilian Worker Center  
Centro Presente  
Chelsea Collaborative  
Committee of Refugees from El Salvador  
Dominican Development Center  
Jamaica Plain Women's Alliance  
Latino Leadership Coalition  
Latinos Unidos en Massachusetts  
Lynn United for Change  
Lynn Worker Center  
Merrimack Valley Project  
Neighbor to Neighbor Massachusetts  
Phillips Brooks House Association  
Point Neighborhood Association (Salem)  
Salem No Place for Hate Committee  
The African Council  
The Welcome Project  
Together North Shore  
United Neighbors of Fitchburg /  
Comité de Vecinos  
Young Cape Verdean Club, Inc.  
YWCA Central MA

## **Faith**

American Friends Service Committee,  
Northeast & Western Regions  
Arlington Street Church - Social Action  
Committee  
Azusa Christian Community  
Berkshire Interfaith Organizing  
Brockton Interfaith Community  
Diocese Saint Francis of Assisi, CCA  
Eitz Chayim, Cambridge  
Episcopal City Mission  
Essex County Community Organization  
First Parish in Brookline, Unitarian  
Universalist Church  
First Parish in Cambridge – Beyond  
Borders/Sin Fronteras Immigration Task  
Force  
Franciscan Order of Saint Joseph Cupertino  
Greater Boston Interfaith Organization  
Harvard Islamic Society  
Immigration Pastoral Center, Inc.  
Massachusetts Community Action Network  
Sharon Interfaith Clergy Committee  
Sunday School for Jewish Studies  
Unitarian Universalist Mass Action Network

## **Labor**

1199SEIU United Healthcare Workers East,  
Massachusetts  
New England Joint Board UNITE HERE  
North Shore Labor Council  
SEIU 32BJ  
UNITE HERE Local 26

## **Public Health**

American Academy of Pediatrics / MA  
Clinicians for Healthy Families  
Greater Boston Health & Law Immigrant  
Solidarity Network  
Health Care for All  
Committee of Interns and Residents/SEIU  
Healthcare  
Planned Parenthood Advocacy Fund of  
Massachusetts

## **Service Providers**

Cambridge Economic Opportunity  
Committee, Inc.  
Community Economic Development Center,  
New Bedford  
Economic Mobility Pathways  
Enroot  
International Institute of New England  
Jewish Family Service of Metrowest  
Jewish Vocational Service  
Lynn Community Health Center  
Massachusetts Affordable Housing Alliance  
Massachusetts Association of Community  
Development Corporations  
Massachusetts Association of Portuguese  
Speakers  
North Shore Community Development  
Coalition, Inc.  
Rosie's Place  
Saheli, Support and Friendship for South  
Asian Women and Families

## **Civil Rights & Social/Economic Justice**

Alliance for Immigration Justice  
American Civil Liberties Union of MA  
American Jewish Committee  
Anti-Defamation League, New England  
Black and Pink  
Boston Workmen's Circle  
Coalition for Social Justice  
Committee in Solidarity with the People of El  
Salvador  
Council on American-Islamic Relations of MA  
Digital Fourth / Restore the Fourth - Boston  
Indivisible Cape Cod & Somerville  
Jewish Alliance for Law and Social Action  
Jewish Community Relations Council  
Massachusetts Transgender Political  
Coalition  
Muslim Justice League  
Pathways to Justice - Indivisible  
Oxfam America  
September 11th Families for Peaceful  
Tomorrows  
Showing Up for Racial Justice, Boston  
Unitarian Universalist Service Committee  
United for Justice with Peace  
White People in North Central Mass  
Committed to Racial Justice  
Woburn Welcomes

## **Domestic Violence Prevention**

Boston Area Rape Crisis Center  
Casa Myrna Vazquez  
Jane Doe, Inc.  
REACH Beyond Domestic Violence, Inc.  
Safe Passage

## **Professional Associations**

Asian American Lawyers Association of  
Massachusetts  
Massachusetts Association of Hispanic  
Attorneys  
Massachusetts Bar Association  
National Association of Social Workers,  
Massachusetts

## **Legal**

American Immigration Lawyers Association,  
New England Chapter  
Community Legal Services and Counseling  
Center  
Greater Boston Legal Services  
Harvard Legal Aid Bureau  
Irish International Immigrant Center  
Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights &  
Economic Justice  
Massachusetts Law Reform Institute  
Political Asylum/Immigration Rep. Project

## **Political**

Boston Democratic Socialists of America  
Cape Cod Women for Change  
Florence Resist  
Forward MA  
Greater Boston Young Democrats  
League of Women Voters of Massachusetts  
Newton Democratic City Committee  
Our Revolution Cambridge  
Pioneer Valley Women's March  
Progressive Massachusetts  
Women for Political Action - Cambridge

## **Education**

American Federation of Teachers / MA  
Harvard University Immigration & Refugee  
Clinical Program  
Immigrant Integration Lab at Boston College  
Massachusetts Coalition for Adult Education  
Mass Educators of English Language Learners  
Partnership for Democracy & Education  
Public Higher Education Network of  
Massachusetts (PHENOM)  
World Education, Inc.