

Second Regular Session
Seventy-fifth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. R26-0816.02 Katelyn Guderian x3205

SJR26-006

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Jodeh and Weissman,

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Joseph and Ricks,

Senate Committees

House Committees

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 26-006

101 **CONCERNING THE COMMITMENT TO COLORADANS NAVIGATING THE**
102 **COMPLEX UNITED STATES IMMIGRATION SYSTEM AND ENSURING**
103 **TRANSPARENCY IN FEDERAL ENFORCEMENT IN OUR STATE.**

1 WHEREAS, Immigrant Coloradans are students, workers, business
2 owners, caregivers, parents, faith leaders, longtime residents, and new
3 arrivals who together shape the civic, economic, and cultural life of our
4 state; and

5 WHEREAS, In 2025, the Colorado Fiscal Institute reported that
6 immigrants in the state of Colorado contribute \$2 billion in state and local
7 tax revenue annually, a significant contribution to our economy; and

8 WHEREAS, Immigration in Colorado reflects a broad and
9 complex spectrum beyond the binary of "documented" and

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.
Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.

1 "undocumented", including Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals
2 recipients, asylum seekers, Temporary Protected Status holders,
3 international students, refugees, survivors of trafficking and domestic
4 violence, seasonal workers, and mixed-status families; and

5 WHEREAS, When immigrant community members are unjustly
6 targeted or subjected to opaque enforcement practices, it undermines not
7 only individual rights but the health, safety, and well-being of all
8 Coloradans-disrupting schools, health-care systems, workplaces, and
9 families; and

10 WHEREAS, A 2021 report by the American Immigration Council
11 shows 17.8 million children in the United States have at least one
12 foreign-born parent, and as many as half a million United States citizen
13 children experienced the deportation of at least one parent between 2011
14 and 2013; and

15 WHEREAS, Additionally, a 2020 study by the American
16 Immigration Council reported that detention or deportation of a family
17 member resulted in significantly higher rates of suicidal thoughts, alcohol
18 abuse, and aggression; and

19 WHEREAS, Colorado has taken meaningful steps to recognize
20 and protect the civil rights of immigrant community members, including
21 the passage of House Bill 19-1124, Senate Bill 21-131, Senate Bill
22 25-276, and other measures that promote transparency, limit
23 discriminatory practices, and reinforce the dignity and equality of
24 residents regardless of immigration status; and

25 WHEREAS, Heightened federal enforcement rhetoric, coupled
26 with immigration enforcement actions carried out without clear
27 identification or accountability, has contributed to increased fear,
28 confusion, and racial profiling of Black and brown Coloradans,
29 disproportionately impacting immigrants and African, Caribbean, Latin
30 American, Middle Eastern, and Asian communities in Colorado; and

31 WHEREAS, The Colorado Polling Institute found in November
32 2025 that a majority of Hispanic voters feared unlawful detention of their
33 community members, and that 64% of Coloradans are concerned that
34 Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is detaining people who
35 should not be detained; and

1 WHEREAS, The use of masked or unidentified personnel and
2 unmarked vehicles in civil immigration enforcement, which represents a
3 form of deindividuation, increasing the likelihood of aggressive,
4 anti-social behavior, has led Colorado community members to reasonably
5 fear arbitrary detention, impersonation, or abuse of authority-resulting in
6 avoidance of schools, public transit, health-care facilities, faith spaces,
7 shelters, civic events, and other essential services; and

8 WHEREAS, Such fear erodes public trust, impedes community
9 cooperation, and compromises public safety by driving people away from
10 institutions intended to protect health, education, and well-being; and

11 WHEREAS, When schools are disrupted or parents are forced to
12 live in fear, children experience psychological trauma that can impair
13 learning, health, and long-term well-being, with consequences that
14 reverberate across families, communities, and generations; and

15 WHEREAS, In Minnesota, a state that has experienced heavy ICE
16 presence, the total number of school absences increased 13% among
17 Spanish speakers, 8% among Karen speakers, and 6% among Hmong
18 speakers between December 1, 2025, and January 6, 2026; and

19 WHEREAS, Allowing ICE presence to affect our students in
20 Colorado schools could have dire consequences for the state, as chronic
21 absenteeism is linked to lower high school graduation rates; and

22 WHEREAS, Renee Good was killed by an ICE agent on January
23 7, 2026, while trying to follow direction to leave; and

24 WHEREAS, Alex Pretti was killed by an ICE agent on January 24,
25 2026, while protecting a woman being beaten by ICE agents; and

26 WHEREAS, The lives of 32 immigrants were lost while held in
27 detention centers in 2025 due to inhumane conditions and lack of access
28 to health care, while survivors have an increased likelihood of mental
29 illness and PTSD, especially if their detention surpassed 6 months; and

30 WHEREAS, According to a 2025 report by Physicians for Human
31 Rights, ICE facilities subjected over 10,500 individuals to solitary
32 confinement for, on average, 38 consecutive days, more than double the
33 15-day threshold for torture as defined by United Nations human rights
34 experts, as well as isolating individuals with vulnerabilities, such as

1 mental health issues, nearly twice as long as compared to 2022; and

2 WHEREAS, So far, under this presidential administration, there
3 have been a reported 20 cases of civilians posing as ICE agents for
4 nefarious reasons, demonstrating that face coverings and agents' failure
5 to identify themselves pose a threat to all Coloradans and erode public
6 trust in law enforcement; and

7 WHEREAS, State, local, and federal governments share
8 responsibility for ensuring that enforcement practices are carried out in
9 a manner consistent with constitutional protections, civil rights laws, and
10 fundamental norms of transparency and accountability, preventing
11 discrimination, trauma, and unjust detainment; and

12 WHEREAS, The General Assembly affirms that true community
13 safety requires transparency, legal clarity, and the ability for all residents
14 to move, work, learn, worship, seek care, and live without fear of
15 coercive interaction or identity-based targeting; now, therefore,

16 *Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Seventy-fifth General Assembly
17 of the State of Colorado, the House of Representatives concurring herein:*

18 (1) That we, the members of the Colorado General Assembly:

19 (a) Reaffirm the civil rights of Immigrant Coloradans and affirm
20 that dignity, belonging, family unity, and freedom from intimidation are
21 fundamental rights of all who call Colorado home;

22 (b) Support the right of members of the public to robustly exercise
23 their First Amendment rights to free speech and to petition their
24 government for redress, and urge that all protests be peaceful in nature;

25 (c) Call on federal agencies to end anonymous enforcement tactics
26 and urge immigration authorities, when operating within Colorado, to
27 adopt enforcement practices that are transparent and accountable,
28 including by immediately ending the routine use of masked or
29 unidentifiable personnel, unmarked vehicles, and plain-clothes
30 detainment without prior identification; requiring visible agency
31 identification and prompt disclosure of name, agency, and badge or
32 credentials upon engagement with the public; and ensuring that residents
33 can readily distinguish lawful officers from private actors, vigilantes, or
34 impersonators;

9 (f) Call on Congress and federal leadership to pursue reforms that
10 reflect lived realities and economic needs, including creating functioning,
11 timely pathways to citizenship for long-term residents, Dreamers, and
12 mixed-status families; expanding worker protections and lawful labor
13 pathways that reflect Colorado's economic reality; strengthening
14 protections for survivors, refugees, and asylum seekers; and modernizing
15 processing systems that currently leave families in indefinite limbo;