

**First Regular Session  
Seventy-fifth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**INTRODUCED**

LLS NO. R25-0874.01 Owen Hatch x2698

**SR25-005**

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**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Gonzales J. and Jodeh,**

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**Senate Committees**

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**SENATE RESOLUTION 25-005**

101      **CONCERNING THE UNITED STATES FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S UNJUST**  
102              **USE OF THE ALIEN ENEMIES ACT TO INDISCRIMINATELY TARGET**  
103              **IMMIGRANTS.**

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1              WHEREAS, In his inaugural address on January 20, 2025,  
2      President Donald J. Trump announced his plan to invoke the Alien  
3      Enemies Act of 1798 for the federal government "to use the full and  
4      immense power of federal and state law enforcement to eliminate the  
5      presence of all foreign gangs and criminal networks bringing devastating  
6      crime to United States soil, including our cities and inner cities"; and

7              WHEREAS, At a campaign stop in Aurora, Colorado on October  
8      11, 2024, Trump suggested the use of the Alien Enemies Act as part of  
9      his "Operation Aurora" plan to "target and dismantle every migrant  
10     criminal network operating on American soil"; and

11             WHEREAS, The Alien Enemies Act is named in Project 2025, the  
12     blueprint for the Trump administration that is currently being enacted in  
13     the United States without regard for due process of the law; and

14             WHEREAS, After his inauguration, President Trump signed

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 several executive orders related to immigration, including an executive  
2 order titled "Protecting the American People Against Invasion", which is  
3 designed to "expand the use of expedited removal" of undocumented  
4 immigrants under the guise of national security; and

5 WHEREAS, President Trump has declared a national emergency  
6 at the United States-Mexico border and has instructed several federal  
7 agencies, including Customs and Border Patrol and Immigration Customs  
8 and Enforcement, to indiscriminately target immigrants and  
9 undocumented people across the country; and

10 WHEREAS, President Trump has a history of both using  
11 dehumanizing language to describe immigrants and lying about them; in  
12 his 2016 campaign, he routinely called immigrants and migrants  
13 "criminals and rapists"; and

14 WHEREAS, During his previous term, President Trump used his  
15 authority as president to separate families and detain migrants, including  
16 children, in concentration camps at the United States-Mexico border; and

17 WHEREAS, The Alien Enemies Act was first passed in 1798 as  
18 one of four Alien and Sedition Acts, giving authority during wartime to  
19 the president to detain or deport the natives and citizens of an enemy  
20 nation; and

21 WHEREAS, The United States is not at war with any country, and  
22 therefore there are neither natives nor citizens of an enemy nation to be  
23 detained; and

24 WHEREAS, In 1941, following the Japanese attack on Pearl  
25 Harbor, President Franklin D. Roosevelt used the Alien Enemies Act to  
26 arrest and unjustly detain innocent Japanese community leaders on the  
27 west coast of the United States without due process in Department of  
28 Justice "internment" camps; and

29 WHEREAS, In 1942, President Roosevelt signed Executive Order  
30 9066, which authorized the forced removal of at least 120,000 people of  
31 Japanese descent, of whom approximately 70,000 were American  
32 citizens, for placement into concentration camps, stripping them of their  
33 possessions, businesses, livelihoods, and dignity; and

34 WHEREAS, The concentration camps were built hastily by the

1 War Relocation Authority and kept the Japanese and Japanese-American  
2 incarcerated under armed surveillance at all times, forcing the detainees to  
3 face the hardships of extreme weather conditions, lack of privacy, mental  
4 and emotional stress, and the disruption of family unity; and

5 WHEREAS, One of the ten United States concentration camps,  
6 Amache, was built in Granada, Colorado and remains a physical reminder  
7 of this dark chapter of American history; and

8 WHEREAS, In 1988, the Civil Liberties Act was signed into law,  
9 which issued a formal apology for the wartime incarceration order and  
10 provided reparations to the living survivors of the incarceration; and

11 WHEREAS, Several times since 1988, Congress and the executive  
12 branch have issued apologies for wartime incarceration, thereby  
13 acknowledging the error of this action; and

14 WHEREAS, The physical, emotional, and mental trauma of the  
15 incarceration is still felt to this day by Japanese-American survivors and  
16 their descendants; and

17 WHEREAS, Individuals, including many Japanese-American  
18 descendants of wartime incarceration, have voiced their concerns about  
19 the dehumanizing language and actions against immigrants in the United  
20 States and have drawn parallels between the Japanese-American mass  
21 incarceration and the actions of the federal government today against  
22 immigrants and their families; now, therefore,

23 *Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Seventy-fifth General Assembly*  
24 *of the State of Colorado:*

25 That we, the members of the Colorado Senate:

26 (1) Express disapproval of the federal government's proposed use  
27 of the Alien Enemies Act to target non-citizens living peacefully in the  
28 United States; and

29 (2) Call on Governor Jared Polis to vocalize his support for all  
30 Coloradans and use his office to build solidarity and trust with immigrant  
31 communities; and

32 (3) Call on Senators Michael Bennett and John Hickenlooper of

1 Colorado to sign on to Senator Mazie Hirono's introduced bill in the  
2 United States Senate, the Neighbors Not Enemies Act, to repeal the Alien  
3 Enemies Act; and

4 (4) Call on Representatives Diana DeGette, Joe Neguse, Jeff  
5 Hurd, Lauren Boebert, Jeff Crank, Jason Crow, Brittany Pettersen, and  
6 Gabe Evans of Colorado to sign on to Representative Ilhan Omar's  
7 introduced bill in the United States House of Representatives, the  
8 Neighbors Not Enemies Act, to repeal the Alien Enemies Act.