



Needham Area Immigration Justice Task Force

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**Testimony submitted to the Joint Committee on the Judiciary
An Act Relative to Immigration Detention and Collaboration Agreements
S.1122/H.1588**

Sponsors: Rep. Christine Barber, Rep. David Rogers and Sen. Adam Gomez
Hearing November 25, 2025

Submitted by the Needham Area Immigration Justice Task Force; Cheryl Aglio-Girelli and Valerie Kistler, Co-Chairs; Karen Price, Legislative Liaison

The mission of the Needham Area Immigration Justice Task Force is to encourage dialogue and raise awareness within Needham and the region regarding immigration as a necessary bedrock of a prosperous and growing United States of America. We take action to welcome immigrants, change unjust policies, and ensure fair working conditions and security for families.

We are writing in support of “An Act relative to immigration detention and collaboration agreements (H.1588/S.1122).” Passage of this bill will limit Massachusetts’ role in mass deportation plans that rely on voluntary state and local collaboration. Our Commonwealth is not required to voluntarily support ICE’s unjust federal deportation operations.

This bill would prohibit Massachusetts entities, including sheriffs, from voluntarily renting beds to ICE, and it would prohibit Massachusetts entities from donating time and volunteering state resources to ICE by signing contracts – such as 287(g) agreements – that deputize local officials as ICE agents.

Limiting detention space available to ICE in state and local facilities in Massachusetts (currently the Plymouth County Jail), will reduce Massachusetts’ role in mass deportations, as will ending the existing 287(g) agreement with the Massachusetts Department of Corrections. Although only two entities are currently involved in these programs, the bill would prohibit state agencies and sheriffs from signing new agreements.

Let’s join other New England states in ending ICE contracts in Massachusetts. We respectfully ask for your support of this bill.