



SENATE BILL 1

FAMILY SEPARATION

Senate Bill 1 would create a mandate for most public agencies in Kentucky to assist Immigration and Customs Enforcement. It has been dubbed the Family Separation Bill, because it would force employees to participate in the detainment and deportation of immigrants in Kentucky.

SB 1 would require any public agency receiving 25% or more of its funding from state or local public funds to enforce federal immigration law, with some exceptions for public schools. It would apply to many universities, health departments, child protective services, domestic violence shelters, libraries, and more.



COST TO COMMUNITIES

If passed, this bill would come at a significant cost to all Kentuckians. The increase in detainment and deportations will separate and hurt families. SB 1 will worsen overcrowding in local jails and move kids from loving homes into foster care. Though exceptions are made for public school employees, we know that the constant threat of separation can make it impossible for kids to show up ready to learn.

SB1 would also create new barriers for immigrants and their families to see a doctor when they're sick or seek life-saving support in a dangerous situation. These barriers would exist even though immigrant Kentuckians pay more in state and local taxes than they use – and more importantly, are valued members of our communities who deserve the same services and protections we all depend on.

The aggressive enforcement proposed in SB 1 would require significant time and resources and come at the risk of costly litigation for misinterpreting complex federal law. The bill is not only cruel, but impractical for public agencies that are underfunded and have already been pushed to cut the services that all Kentuckians need to live happy, healthy lives.

WE ARE KENTUCKIANS

Here in Kentucky, we do better together. When a neighbor needs help, we lend a hand – whether they're a newcomer or lifelong Kentuckian.

Senate Bill 1 only serves to divide and distract us: pointing the finger at immigrants, while too many Kentuckians

go without clean water or struggle to find a good job. Public agencies need funding and support – not an order to enforce federal law and harm our immigrant neighbors.

No amendment could make this bill tolerable. Vote no on SB 1.

"My vision for Kentucky is a place where we all coexist without fear of someone judging us because we look different. My vision for Kentucky is a place where we all work together for a better future."

-HEYRA, KENTON COUNTY