

Good morning,

I urge you to support and pass H.R. 7640, the Shut Down Sanctuary Policies Act, and S. 3790, the Protect America Act, to ensure that states and local jurisdictions cannot make non-cooperation with federal immigration enforcement an official policy. My primary concern is the safety and security of the American people. Violence, human trafficking, organized criminal activity, and other forms of exploitation inflict profound harm upon innocent victims.

During periods of war, geopolitical instability, and heightened international tensions, these threats deserve attention from policymakers. While individual criminal cases may appear isolated, repeated failures to address serious public safety risks can have significant consequences. At scale, they can result in mass atrocities for communities. We see every victim, and preventing future tragedies should remain the fundamental responsibility of government.

I understand and sympathize with individuals who seek asylum or refuge from persecution and violence. The United States has long served as a place of hope for many. However, sanctuary city policies are not the appropriate means of balancing humanitarian concerns with public safety. Policies that limit cooperation between local authorities and federal immigration enforcement may reduce the government's ability to identify, detain, and remove individuals who present legitimate public safety threats.

Children, women, and vulnerable populations are often disproportionately affected by violence, trafficking, and exploitation. Government has a fundamental obligation to prioritize the safety and security of those residing within its jurisdiction while maintaining an orderly and lawful immigration system. For these reasons, the protection of American citizens, lawful residents, and our communities should remain the foremost priority of public policy. Strong border security, effective immigration enforcement, and cooperation between federal, state, and local law enforcement are essential components of that responsibility.

I respectfully urge Congress to move beyond sanctuary city policies and carefully examine the public safety implications associated with war time activity, transnational criminal organizations, human trafficking networks, and other cross-border criminal activity. These are serious challenges that require coordinated enforcement and clear public policy. The consequences of these decisions can be measured in the safety, freedom, and lives of innocent people. For that reason, I respectfully ask you to support H.R. 7640 and S. 3790 and to place the safety and security of the American people at the forefront of immigration policy.

Thank you for your time, your service, and your careful consideration.

Sincerely,

Dannielle Courchene-Cowdrey