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FROM: David Whitaker, Director
Legislative Policy Division



DATE: February 2, 2026

RE: **Recognizing Supporting Michigan State Bills 508-510**

City Council Member Gabriela Santiago-Romero has requested the Legislative Policy Division (LPD) to produce a resolution in support of Michigan Senate Bills 508-510.

Attached is the requested resolution. Please let us know if we can be of further assistance.

A Resolution by Council Member Gabriela Santiago-Romero

RECOGNIZING SUPPORTING MICHIGAN STATE BILLS 508-510

- WHEREAS** For the past two decades, but in the last year in particular, both the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) agencies have engaged in increasingly aggressive and militarized police tactics, widespread surveillance, and a disregard for basic human rights and the U.S. Constitution; and
- WHEREAS** The One Big Beautiful Bill Act, along with other appropriations, has made ICE the highest-funded U.S. law enforcement agency by far, with proponents justifying the agency as necessary for national security and broadly associating immigration with violent crime; and
- WHEREAS** The necessity for the expansion of ICE is questionable considering that immigration offenses are principally enforced through civil proceedings, documented and undocumented immigrants have been shown to commit significantly less violent crimes than U.S. born citizens,¹ cities with higher immigrant populations tend to have lower crime rates,² and other federal law enforcement agencies already prosecute international organized crime; and
- WHEREAS** By implementing an arbitrary quota demanding 3,000 arrests per day, the federal administration appears to be more interested in volume of arrests rather than targeted arrests of violent criminals, which is borne out by the data showing that the majority of people recently booked into ICE custody had no criminal convictions and only about 5% were convicted of a violent crime;³ and
- WHEREAS** To meet this quota, ICE has been conducting worksite raids targeting agricultural workers, construction workers, hospitality workers, and routinely arresting individuals who appear at courthouses to attend immigration hearings, while also relaxing policies prohibiting ICE actions in protected areas like churches, hospitals, and schools; and
- WHEREAS** ICE has been chaotically conducting unconstitutional stops and arrests on immigrants and U.S. citizens alike in cities across the country, often engaging in racial profiling, and further denying individuals held in ICE custody their constitutional right to due process; and
- WHEREAS** ICE has continually been accused of using excessive force in response to non-violent protests, and ICE agents recently killed two U.S. citizens in Minnesota in January of 2026 after which federal officials blocked the state from obtaining evidence related to the killings and made statements alleging that ICE agents have “absolute immunity;”⁴ and
- WHEREAS** To help protect Michiganders against dangerous immigration enforcement tactics used by ICE and CBP, Michigan Senators Mary Cavanagh (D-Redford Twp.), Stephanie Chang (D-Detroit), and Jeremy Moss (D-Bloomfield) introduced Senate Bills 508-510; and

¹ <https://docs.house.gov/meetings/JU/JU01/20250122/117827/HHRG-119-JU01-20250122-SD004.pdf>;

² <https://www.umass.edu/preferen/You%20Must%20Read%20This/Lee%20Immigration%20and%20Crime.pdf>;
<https://www.asanet.org/sociological-research-reveals-how-immigrants-can-reduce-crime/>

³ <https://www.cato.org/blog/5-ice-detainees-have-violent-convictions-73-no-convictions>

⁴ <https://detroitmi.gov/government/city-clerk/city-council-agendas-documents>

- WHEREAS** Senate Bill 508 designates schools, places of worship, hospitals, courthouses, and organizations providing services to pregnant women, victims of crime, or disabled individuals as protected spaces from immigration enforcement, unless there is imminent public danger or a judicial warrant; and
- WHEREAS** Senate Bill 509 protects the privacy of personal information by prohibiting government entities from giving personal identifying information to others for the purposes of immigration enforcement without a judicial warrant; and
- WHEREAS** Senate Bill 510 makes it a criminal offense for a law enforcement officer to wear a mask or personal disguise while interacting with the public in the performance of the officer's duties, and it is accompanied by Senate Resolution 86 urging the U.S. Congress to adopt legislation that similarly prohibits immigration officers from covering their faces and failing to identify themselves; and
- WHEREAS** As the size and scope of ICE and CBP operations has continued to grow, so has the lack of accountability regarding constitutional violations and excessive force that has now escalated into fatal violence; and
- WHEREAS** States and local governments have a duty to protect their residents from threats to their constitutional rights and their lives, even where those threats stem from the actions of the federal government; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**
- RESOLVED** The Detroit City Council hereby calls on the Michigan legislature to pass Michigan Senate Bills 508-510; **NOW BE IT FINALLY**
- RESOLVED** That the Detroit City Clerk provide a copy of this resolution to Mayor Mary Sheffield, the Detroit delegations of both the Michigan State House and Senate, and Governor Gretchen Whitmer.