

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

January 9, 2026

The Honorable Kathy Hochul  
Governor  
State of New York  
NYS Capitol Building  
Albany, NY 12224

The Honorable Carl Heastie  
Speaker  
New York State Assembly  
LOB 932  
Albany, NY 12248

The Honorable Andrea Stewart-Cousins  
Majority Leader  
New York State Senate  
LOB 907  
Albany, NY 12247

Dear Governor Hochul, Speaker Heastie, and Majority Leader Stewart-Cousins:

As members of the New York Congressional delegation, we write to express our strong support for several pieces of legislation pending before the New York State Legislature. If signed into law, these important bills will protect our immigrant neighbors, uphold constitutional rights, and reinforce New York State's role as a check against unlawful federal overreach by the Trump administration.

Over the past year, we have directly witnessed how President Trump's mass deportation agenda has increasingly targeted law-abiding immigrants and their loved ones, undermined due process in the immigration court system, and increasingly relied upon the expanded involvement of the U.S. military, including members of the National Guard, to instill fear, cause havoc and incite violence in cities across the country.

Accordingly, we strongly support the passage of [S2235/A3506](#), (commonly known as the New York for All Act), which would establish clear, statewide limits on state and local participation in civil immigration enforcement, and require judicial warrants for federal immigration agents to access non-public state and local property, among other provisions.

In addition, we support [S141/A270](#), legislation that guarantees access to counsel for individuals facing deportation. Immigration court proceedings are among the most complex in the American legal system, yet many individuals are forced to navigate them alone without legal counsel. Ensuring access to legal representation is essential to due process and the efficient administration of justice. In fact, individuals who have legal representation are [ten times more likely](#) to win their immigration case and be granted relief that they are eligible for as opposed to those without a lawyer by their side.

Lastly, we support [S8533](#), which reinforces New York's sovereign authority by prohibiting the deployment of National Guard units under another state's command without the consent of New York's Governor—a necessary safeguard against unauthorized interstate deployments and an important affirmation of state control over the use of military force within its own borders.

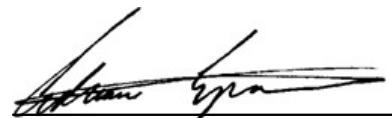
These legislative proposals aim to enact measured, targeted and necessary reforms of New York state law to protect New Yorkers and preserve constitutional boundaries between federal and state authorities. While Congressional Democrats continue to pursue federal solutions to fight back against the Trump administration, states remain an essential backstop when our fundamental rights and democratic institutions are under strain. We respectfully urge you to pass these bills and sign them into law as soon as possible.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



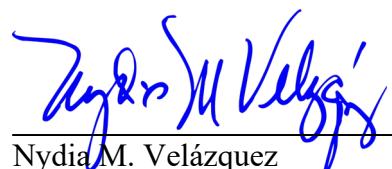
Dan Goldman  
Member of Congress



Adriano Espaillat  
Member of Congress



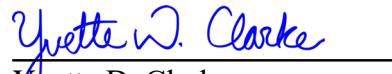
Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez  
Member of Congress



Nydia M. Velázquez  
Member of Congress



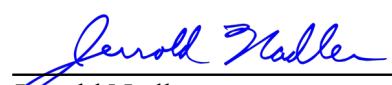
Grace Meng  
Member of Congress



Yvette D. Clarke  
Member of Congress



Gregory W. Meeks  
Member of Congress



Jerrold Nadler  
Member of Congress



Paul D. Tonko  
Member of Congress