

Vote Recommendation: Oppose New DHS Funding without Guardrails

UnidosUS, the nation's largest Hispanic civil rights and advocacy organization, urges Congress to vote NO on the proposed Fiscal Year 2026 funding package for the Department of Homeland Security unless it includes meaningful, enforceable guardrails on immigration enforcement.

Congress should not approve billions in additional enforcement funding while documented abuses and constitutional concerns remain unfixed and continue to persist across the country.

Since early 2025, UnidosUS has maintained a publicly documented [DHS Enforcement Harms Tracker](#) cataloging more than 200 reported incidents across more than 30 states.

Documented cases include:

- U.S. citizens detained despite presenting valid identification;
- Children — including toddlers and medically vulnerable minors — placed in detention;
- Non-consensual, warrantless entries into homes and workplaces;
- Enforcement operations at schools, churches, and hospitals;
- Aggressive vehicle pursuits and multiple incidents of shooting at people fleeing in vehicles;
- Deployment of tear gas and other intimidation tactics against peaceful protestors.

The widely-reported deaths of Renee Nicole Good and Alex Pretti, U.S. citizens fatally shot during federal immigration enforcement operations earlier this year, are not isolated tragedies. They reflect a broader pattern of fatalities, injuries, and high-risk enforcement actions across the country.

Congress has a constitutional responsibility to serve as a check on executive authority and ensure that enforcement actions remain within the bounds of the First, Fourth, and Fifth Amendments. International tensions cannot justify expanding enforcement authority without safeguards, particularly when documented harms to American citizens and children are already occurring.

Congress should not authorize additional funds or expanded authority without ensuring those resources are used lawfully and with appropriate oversight. Absent enforceable safeguards, new funding risks endorsing unlawful detentions, excessive force, and serious harm.

Any responsible funding package must include:

- Requiring judicial warrants for non-consensual enforcement actions in nonpublic spaces;
- Establishing real accountability for federal officials who violate constitutional rights;
- Ending impediments to access to counsel, family, and clergy for individuals in detention;
- Requiring enforcement agents use body cameras in conjunction with protections for First Amendment expression, accountability, and privacy;
- Ending immigration enforcement at sensitive locations such as schools, religious institutions, and hospitals;
- Ending data betrayal — the weaponization of data collected by government.

For these reasons, UnidosUS urges you to oppose this DHS funding package unless it includes enforceable reforms that uphold constitutional protections and restore public trust.