



August 18, 2025

Greetings –

Opposing ICE’s Lawless and Dangerous Behavior

Yesterday, I called on Governor Hochul (<https://www.instagram.com/reel/DNdjZ-7N8wM/?igsh=MW5vbmM5a29va2hlOA%3D%3D>) to use her authority over the Department of Public Service and Consolidated Edison to cut off service at 26 Federal Plaza and other federal buildings where ICE’s actions pose a threat to public health and safety. I am confident this can be done in a way that does not endanger anyone working at these buildings and that immigration hearings can simply proceed virtually. The Trump Administration needs to understand that it is not above the law.



Like many of you, I am appalled and deeply disturbed by the Trump Administration’s practices targeting immigrants for arrest, detention, and deportation. [According to the New York Times, \(https://www.nytimes.com/2025/08/04/nyregion/new-york-immigrant-arrests-trump.html\)](https://www.nytimes.com/2025/08/04/nyregion/new-york-immigrant-arrests-trump.html) at least 2,365 immigrants were arrested in the New York City area from the time of Trump’s inauguration through the end of June, but over fifty percent of these individuals had no criminal convictions or charges against them. In New York City ICE agents have concentrated arrests

around federal courthouses in Lower Manhattan targeting immigrants simply attempting to follow the legal process to resolve their cases. Family separations, including the recent detention of a Queens mother, her seven-year-old daughter and 19-year-old son.

Masked ICE agents have effectively occupied 26 Federal Plaza and held people for extended periods of time in office space not meant for this purpose; a federal judge just ordered the Trump Administration to remedy the conditions of people being detained there. ICE's dangerous and unconstitutional behavior must stop. Apprehending and detaining people without judicial warrants is abduction by another name.

I also strongly support and will continue to advocate for: the New York For All Act ([A.3506](#)), which would prohibit New York state and local government agencies, including police and sheriffs, from cooperating with ICE, disclosing sensitive information, and diverting personnel or other resources to further federal immigration enforcement; The Dignity Not Detention Act ([A.4181](#)), that bars local jails from renting out cell space to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) for profit; and, the Access to Representation Act ([A.270](#)), which would establish a universal right to counsel for low-income New Yorkers who are subject to removal proceedings under federal immigration law.

Defending Democracy: Fighting back against Texas' Redistricting Scheme

On Saturday I joined fellow elected officials and concerned citizens in Central Park to rally against Texas' scheme to redraw congressional districts in advance of the 2026 midterms at the behest of the Trump Administration to create more seats favorable to Republicans.



Longstanding law and practice across the nation has been to redraw congressional district lines once every decade, following the federal census. If Texas or other states choose to break with this practice in pursuit of partisan objectives then I believe New York has no choice but to act to defend our democracy; the legislature should pass Assemblymember Micah Lasher and Senator Michael Gianaris's Constitutional Amendment ([S.8467](#)) to allow New York to redistrict before the next census if another state does so. Extraordinary times call for extraordinary measures and we simply cannot allow trampling of democratic norms to go uncontested.

Protecting our Safety Net Against Federal Cuts

Governor Hochul must call a special session of the Legislature to address federal funding cuts, reign in ICE, and protect immigrants. The omnibus federal tax and spending legislation signed by President Trump (H.R.1) slashes federal funding on vital programs and services and gives tax cuts to the wealthy at the expense of everyday Americans while ballooning the national debt. This same federal legislation that could deny people healthcare and food stamps, ramps up spending for ICE allocating \$45 billion to expand detention centers and \$30 billion for arrests and deportations.

The most direct impact on New York of spending cuts will be on the Medicaid and food stamp (SNAP) programs. More than 2 million New Yorkers could lose health insurance, hospitals could face reduced services and possible closures, and thousands of workers in healthcare could lose work. Over 300,000 families could lose SNAP benefits.

I believe that working together, the governor and legislature can identify broad based revenue sources that will mitigate the harm caused and save our safety net while ensuring all New Yorkers are treated fairly.

Call Governor Hochul at 518-474-8390 to tell her you support a special session to pass legislation to prevent cuts to Medicaid and food stamps and to protect New Yorkers from ICE's unlawful actions.

If you have any concerns about any legislative or community issue, please email me at carrollr@nyassembly.gov or call (718) 788-7221.

-Bobby

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