## STATE OF FLORIDA TRAVEL ALERT

TRAVELING TO FLORIDA MAY RESULT IN VIOLATION OF CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS IF SB 168/HB 527 BECOME STATE LAW

**WARNING:** All travelers, including U.S. citizens, should be advised, you may encounter:

- Racial profiling
- Unjust detention
- Deportation



# PASSAGE OF BILLS WOULD THREATEN THE CIVIL RIGHTS OF FLORIDA RESIDENTS AND TRAVELERS

These bills would broadly ban all sanctuary policies and require every Florida county and municipality to enforce federal immigration law, which would threaten the civil rights of all those entering or residing in Florida.

If Florida State Bill 168 and House Bill 527 pass, it would undermine local governments' ability to protect the civil rights of their residents by forcing local officials to cooperate with ICE. It would also put immigrants at risk of violence, potentially forcing victims and witnesses to stay silent for fear of deportation.

Both Florida residents, citizens and non-citizens, and travelers could face risks of being racially profiled and being detained without probable cause.

All travelers and residents should take the following steps if these bills become law:

- ✓ Memorize the phone number for a licensed immigration attorney
- ✓ Discuss a plan with loved ones regarding care/ custody of children, pets, property, belongings
- ✓ Text UNIDOS to 313131 to stay connected (Standard rates apply)
- ✓ Call the Immigrant Hotline at 1-888-600-5762 to learn about your constitutional rights
- ✓ Research detailed information about how to engage with law enforcement from the ACLU

#### **HIGH RISK AREAS IN FL**

Counties with Sheriffs expanding their collaboration with Homeland Security.

Areas surrounding
Florida's 66 Airports,
including but not limited
to major airports in: Miami,
Fort Lauderdale, West
Palm Beach, Orlando,
Daytona, St. Petersburg,
Clearwater, Sarasota,
Bradenton, Jacksonville,
and Tallahassee.

Areas surrounding Sea Ports, including but not limited to: Miami, Cape Canaveral, Inverness, Fort Lauderdale, Fernandina Beach, Fort Pierce, Jacksonville, Key West, Palmetto, Riviera Beach, Panama City, Pensacola, St. Petersburg, Tampa.

### **HUMAN IMPACT**

In Florida, one out of five residents is an immigrant, and nearly 1 million live with at least one undocumented family member. Immigrants make up a quarter of the labor force in Florida.

If these bills pass, Florida's Black, brown and Latinx communities would be who would be subject to increased racial profiling. unjust detention and possibly deportation.

In just two years after agreeing to work with ICE, Miami-Dade County records show that 420 people listed as U.S. citizens had false "detainer requests" issued against them. In Monroe County, a U.S. citizen was held for weeks and was on the verge of being deported after being mocked by jail officials when he protested his unjust immigration detention.

These bills put immigrants at risk of violence, potentially forcing thousands to stay silent for fear of being deported. That's why Miami Police Chief Jorge Colina said he wouldn't be able to sleep at night if he had to "check where someone came from before helping them."

## PASSAGE OF SB 168/HB527 WOULD **DEVASTATE FLORIDA'S COMMUNITIES**

Florida stands on the verge of joining the pack of antiimmigrant states by considering SB 168 and HB 527 — following the steps of Texas, Alabama, Tennessee and Arizona. These bills would require state and local law enforcement to actively assist federal immigration officials, at Florida taxpayer expense, in arresting and deporting our neighbors and family members.

By forcing a state entity, local governmental entity, or law enforcement agency (and any employee acting in the scope of their employment) to "fully comply" with federal immigration requests, these bills undermine local governments' ability to protect the civil rights of Floridians.

Such cruel legislation is designed to tear immigrant families apart and only increases the level of scrutiny immigrants and people of color in Florida are already facing by increasing the racial profiling of Black, brown and Latinx communities across Florida.

In effect, law enforcement will be conscripted to prioritize immigration enforcement over any local needs to address crime or keep communities safe and will be forced to choose between: (a) enforcing ICE detainer requests and potentially being held liable for damages for constitutional violations, or (b) not enforcing ICE detainer requests, and facing a range of harsh financial

penalties and sanctions, including personal injury damages.

If either bill passes, it would shatter the relationships between Floridians and law enforcement. People fearing deportation for themselves or others in their families and communities will be afraid to report crimes or cooperate with investigations. This would make it harder for our local authorities to solve crimes and keep our neighbors safe. The bills mandates records be kept on the immigration status of all arrested persons, possibly including victims and witnesses, even if any charges were dropped or they were found innocent.

If either bill becomes law. it would devastate Florida's communities by increasing the likelihood of racial profiling, diverting local law enforcement resources from safeguarding our communities, and could cost Florida taxpayers millions of dollars and potentially create irreparable damage to immigrant families.









































