



February 27, 2026

To: Chairperson Bosn, and members of the Judiciary Committee

From: Anahí Salazar, Voices for Children in Nebraska

RE: Support for LB907, Prohibit law enforcement officers from entering community safe spaces to enforce immigration law

Children deserve safety and stability in the spaces where they learn and grow. Right now, due to changes in federal immigration enforcement, across the country people are afraid to seek lifesaving care, practice their faith in their respective place of worship, attend court hearings, access childcare, and take their kids to school. Kids don't understand why they suddenly feel unsafe in places that used to feel normal. These are areas and institutions that children and families rely on for basic needs and services. Voices for Children in Nebraska supports LB907 because it protects children from the collateral damaging effects of immigration enforcement.

Public health and safety suffer when protected areas become targets. After the rescission of protected or safe spaces, schools experienced a decline in student attendance and health care providers that serve immigrants documented an increase in missed appointments.¹ For children to learn, grow, and succeed in school and in life, they need proper nutrition, regular health care, a stable and healthy living environment, and nurturing adults. Studies have shown the devastating impact anti-immigration policies can have on children and families.² LB907 simply restores the ability for parents and caregivers to keep their children safe and healthy without fear.

Immigration enforcement looks different today than it has in the past—more willing to put children directly in the crosshairs. Physicians are seeing the impact on appointments, vaccination numbers and even basic nutrition, and the worry for long-term health consequences can be predicted. Across the country, and most recently in Minnesota, healthcare professionals witnessed ICE agents lining hallways, interrogating hospital staff, and questioning physicians about their patients. Physicians say the presence of agents in health care settings can be disruptive and intimidating. It also places healthcare staff in adversarial roles for following laws like HIPAA. In January, just last month, a group of

¹ [Protected No More – How States Are Responding to Immigration Enforcement in Sensitive Locations - American Immigration Council](#)

² Id.

doctors in Minnesota gathered at the state Capitol to warn that a medical crisis was unfolding in their community amid the surge in immigration enforcement.³

In the educational setting, children have exhibited disturbing new behaviors, such as aggression, separation, and withdrawal from their environments.⁴ Expressions of fear are not limited to children with immigrant family members. They impact all children exposed to an environment that is surrounded by armed officials. Children cannot understand the details of immigration policy. Their fears are based on what they hear and see around them, as demonstrated by the immigration officer who entered a childcare building and took a person into custody. Children's lives are being upended; their daily routines are interrupted because fear is keeping families at home, resulting in reduced access to education. When teaching is disrupted and classmates are disappearing, ALL children are losing out on the enriching educational experiences that are important to prepare them for life.⁵

LB907 reinstates protections that have long existed. With bipartisan support, the Protecting Sensitive Locations Act, later coined Protected Areas, was enacted to ensure community members could still access basic services and support without fear.⁶ LB907 helps keep children and families across the state feel safe and provides clarity for communities.

We want to thank Senator Juarez for bringing such important legislation and the Committee for their time and consideration.

³ Multiple news outlets: [Doctors say Minnesota's immigration crackdown elevates health crisis for patients | AP News](#); [Minneapolis doctors warn of lasting medical effects, even after ICE agents leave : NPR](#) , [Doctors say fear of immigration enforcement is keeping some patients away from critical care - CBS Minnesota](#)

⁴ [Effects of Immigration Enforcement on Students in California](#), Policy Analysis for California Education, Core-Pace Research Partnership

⁵ The Center for Law and Social Policy, CLASP, Our Children's Fear; Immigration Policy's Effects on Young Children, [2018_ourchildrensfears.pdf](#)

⁶The Center for Law and Social Policy, CLASP, Our Children's Fear; Immigration Policy's Effects on Young Children, [What Are Protected Areas? | CLASP](#)