



Congressional Hispanic Caucus Chairman Adriano Espaillat 10-Point Immigration Oversight and Protection Plan



This resource from the Chair is provided for nonprofits, grassroots organizations, and local governments, in light of recent violations of sensitive locations, the use of tear gas and toxic chemicals, the assault on Senator Padilla, and the deployment of the National Guard to cities across the country. Reports of unlawful detentions of TPS and DACA recipients, as well as U.S. citizens, underscore the urgent need for an immediate and coordinated response to stop the weaponization of law enforcement and safeguard civil rights.

- 1. Rapid Response Infrastructure:** Activate state and local rapid response networks to provide immediate legal and on-the-ground support during enforcement actions ensuring real-time coordination between trusted partners and elected offices. Establish a referral network for critical wraparound services such as housing, transportation, and case management alongside legal assistance to stabilize families and communities in crisis.
- 2. Safe Zones, Corridors, and Oversight Enforcement:** Designate schools, small businesses, and community venues as safe zones and establish protection corridors where enforcement activity is prohibited under sensitive location guidance. Require oversight investigations, track and publicly report all incidents involving federal law enforcement abuse.
- 3. Education and Public Awareness Campaign:** Use CHC's Learning without Fear campaign resources to launch a local multilingual campaign outlining community rights, dos and don'ts during enforcement encounters, and emergency contact information for legal and safety support. Include preventative measures such as emergency planning for undocumented parents of minor children and legal screenings to identify alternative immigration relief options.
- 4. Consolidated Legal Services Hub:** Coordinate legal aid organizations, bar associations, and immigration attorneys into a centralized referral and intake system to handle mass detentions, unlawful arrests, and civil rights violations. Invest in strengthening the programmatic and infrastructure capacity of this sector to meet rising demand.
- 5. Soft Lockdown Protocol for Schools:** Develop a "soft lockdown" framework allowing schools to secure campuses, limit entry, and communicate discreetly with families while maintaining student calm and safety.
- 6. Documentation and Accountability Initiative:** Train volunteers to safely document and report rogue ICE or law enforcement activity. Create a centralized reporting tool to verify incidents and preserve evidence for legal or congressional review.
- 7. High School Student Safety Protocols:** Implement trauma-informed safety plans for high school students, including peer-led support networks and immediate counseling access after enforcement incidents.
- 8. Virtual Learning Accommodations:** Encourage school districts to authorize short-term virtual learning options for students too fearful to attend school due to enforcement activity or National Guard presence, ensuring uninterrupted education.
- 9. Immigration Court Visits:** Establish regular congressional and community visits to immigration courts and detention facilities to monitor treatment, identify due process violations, and ensure transparency in proceedings.
- 10. Federal-State Accountability Framework:** Urge the Department of Justice and Department of Homeland Security to restore and issue binding guidance limiting enforcement near sensitive locations, prohibiting the use of chemical agents, and protecting all residents, regardless of status, from discriminatory targeting.