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Human rights advocates call on Congress to vote ‘no’ until departments and agencies are transparent about immigration and deportation policies and practices, reject fees

Advocates call for funding freeze until administration is transparent about immigration policies

NEW YORK — Today, the House Judiciary Committee of the U.S. Congress is scheduled to mark up an \$81.3 billion proposal in new spending on immigration enforcement in the reconciliation package. Justice in Motion urges members to vote against the harmful proposal. The recent detention and deportation of U.S. citizen children to Honduras, and the illegal removal of immigrants legally present in the U.S. to a notorious prison in El Salvador — represent a flagrant disregard for the rule of law. The U.S. government has yet to disclose the terms of its agreements with El Salvador and other Latin American countries for transferring or detaining non-citizens. Meanwhile, evidence continues to show routine violations of immigrants’ due process rights. Congress must uphold the Constitution and U.S. law by holding government officials accountable.

We also oppose the plan by some members to use the mark-up to impose steep fees and implement policy changes affecting unaccompanied minors, asylum seekers and other vulnerable immigrant and migrant populations. These measures threaten to create insurmountable barriers to legal status, endanger the lives of children and unjustly penalize immigrants and migrants — who are following U.S. law — for systemic government failures.

We call on Congress to reject these harmful proposals and instead work toward a fair and just immigration system that upholds the dignity and rights of all individuals, regardless of their economic status. We urge Congress to scrutinize the removal of immigrants and U.S. citizens and hold the Trump administration accountable for the harms it is causing to those directly impacted by its cruel and unlawful immigration policies. We stand in solidarity with migrants and their families, advocating for policies that promote safety, due process, reunification and the fundamental human rights of all.

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Justice in Motion protects migrant rights by ensuring justice across borders. Our unique network of on-the-ground human rights defenders in Mexico and Central America partner with U.S. advocates to make sure that wherever migrants go, their rights will follow.