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Vote Recommendation: AILA Urges Senate to Vote NO on FY2026 Homeland Security Appropriations Bill

January 26, 2026

The American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) urges Senators to vote NO on the FY 2026 Homeland Security Appropriations bill.

Federal immigration agents just killed another civilian during their operations in Minnesota; in the wake of these killings, Congress cannot give more money to DHS without putting in place guardrails to stop the unlawful actions and abuses of power that are causing chaos, violence, and death in American communities. The corrective measures of the conference version of the FY 2026 DHS spending bill are wholly insufficient.

Without corrective measures, voting to support funding for DHS would facilitate the expansion of a massive enforcement system that is operating without meaningful accountability to Congress or the American people. Voting for DHS funding will enable ICE to continue mass arrests of an ever-growing number of people, the vast majority of whom ([92 percent](#)) have no criminal conviction despite the Administration's claims that it is pursuing the "worst of the worst." DHS is using its current enforcement resources to target many people who have lawful immigration status and even U.S. citizens. Funding DHS will further enlarge the coffers of the private prison industry and other contractors who are already benefitting from the \$170 billion in the One Big Beautiful Bill Act.

Reform starts with requiring independent investigations of incidents involving the use of force by federal officials, including the killings of Renee Good, Alex Pretti, and others. In addition, Congress should enact laws that stop unconstitutional enforcement operations and discriminatory profiling by ICE, CBP and other federal officers, and that hold officers accountable. Warrantless arrests must stop. Racial, ethnic, and other discriminatory targeting of people must stop. Targeting and arresting refugees must stop. The ICE actions at schools, places of worship, and courthouses must stop. The scale-up of detention that is even targeting children and families cannot continue. Many of DHS's components and other federal agencies are now functioning well beyond the scope of their missions and are compromising the immigration system and public safety.

Congress must rein in these excesses and put the agency back on track with the law and the Constitution. Many leaders in Congress are now demanding these rigorous, corrective measures. **AILA urges you to VOTE NO on funding for DHS and insist upon reforms before passing any DHS spending bill.**