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ACLU OF RI POSITION: SUPPORT

TESTIMONY ON 26-H 7077, CONDEMNING UNCONSTITUTIONAL TACTICS BY U.S. IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND BEYOND March 4, 2026

The ACLU of Rhode Island strongly supports this resolution condemning the often violent and unconstitutional federal immigration enforcement tactics carried out in our communities by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

This resolution affirms Rhode Island's commitment to protecting the safety of our communities. In the last year, our office has witnessed firsthand numerous ICE apprehensions conducted near the Garrahy Courthouse. One was most recently conducted on Tuesday, March 3, 2025, at around 10 am. These actions are dangerous, disruptive, and chaotic, not only for the targeted individuals but for their families and anyone who witnesses the action. With that context, this resolution sends the necessary message that these enforcement actions should not be tolerated in Rhode Island.

Immigrants and immigrant communities are an important part of Rhode Island's culture. Actions that target their safety and put their wellbeing at risk and undermines the fabric of our entire state.

Thank you for considering our views.