
Testimony Bill S-2278

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To Senate Judiciary Committee <SenateJudiciary@rilegislature.onmicrosoft.com>

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My Name is Nadia, today I am here not only as an organizer, but as part of a community that lives with constant fear. I am here to say that I support Bill S-2278 to terminate ICE contract with Wyatt Detention Center.

The Wyatt Detention Center is not just a building. It is a place where families are separated, where immigrants, many of them with no criminal record, are treated as if they have no value. It is a place that represents pain, uncertainty, and forced silence.

I have spoken with people who have been there. People who were detained on their way to work, while caring for their children, or simply living their daily lives. What happens inside Wyatt does not only affect those detained, it impacts entire communities. Children are left without their parents. Mothers don't know if they will see their children again. Families lose their stability overnight.

The contract with ICE allows this system to continue. A system that criminalizes migration and profits from human suffering. Our community is not a business. Our people should not be used to fill beds in detention centers.

Ending the contract with ICE is a necessary step toward justice. It is a way of saying that in our community, we do not tolerate family separation or the dehumanization of immigrants.

Immigrants are an essential part of this community. We work, we contribute, we care, we build. We deserve dignity, respect, and protection.

Today, I ask you to listen to our voices and take action. Because silence also causes harm. And our families deserve to live without fear.