

Testimony in support of SB0234

I believe that the existence of ICE is a crime. The organization was formed in the paranoid days after 9-11 and has become an unaccountable force that terrorizes those whose only crimes were being born in the wrong place and seeking better lives for themselves. ICE has a documented history of warehousing people in deplorable conditions, denying detainees medical treatment, rampant sexual and physical abuse, deaths of people under their care, mass hysterectomies, separating thousands of children from their parents, and sending asylum-seekers -- many of whom were fleeing war, destitution, or persecution for their beliefs or identities -- back to the situations they were trying to escape.

I believe that no human is illegal. I believe in the radical idea that where you happen to be born should not affect your quality of life or freedom to cross arbitrary borders. This is especially true in the richest country in the history of all time. Research shows that immigration has a short-term and long-term positive effect on our economy. I welcome immigration and therefore support this bill. ICE should not be allowed to collaborate with any agency. It should be abolished.