



Keeping Immigrants and Destinations Safe (KIDS) Act

U.S. Senator Michael Bennet (D-Colo.)

In the last year, the Trump Administration's Department of Homeland Security (DHS) immigration enforcement agents – including from Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and Customs and Border Protection (CBP) – have taken enforcement actions in sensitive locations such as schools, hospitals, places of worship, and courthouses. These activities are deeply concerning and go against long-standing precedent. Every American has a right to feel safe going to school, attending places of worship, or seeking medical care without fear of arrest. The Administration also continues to separate children from their families and hold them in detention – and for far longer than established protocols allow. DHS's operating procedures must be overhauled to prohibit arrests of children and any immigration enforcement actions at or near sensitive locations without a court-issued criminal warrant.

The KIDS Act would:

- Prohibit DHS from detaining children, individuals with cognitive disabilities, or primary caregivers, unless agents have a court-issued criminal warrant;
- Ensures children can remain in the care of legally designated caregivers, including a parent or legal guardian, designated caregiver identified by the parent or guardian, or relevant child protective service;
- Prohibits immigration enforcement at sensitive locations such as schools, hospitals, places of worship, and courthouses, unless agents have a court-issued criminal warrant;
- Clarify that these protections also apply when individuals are traveling to, attending, or returning from sensitive locations; and
- Establishes legal consequences for violations, including barring unlawfully obtained evidence from immigration proceedings and allowing individuals to seek termination of their cases.

This legislation would put basic safeguards in place to protect children and families, and ensure people can safely access schools, medical care, places of worship, and the courts. By setting clear limits on enforcement and establishing consequences for violations, it aims to eliminate some of the harmful practices we have seen from DHS agents across the country under the Trump Administration.