



New Jersey Alliance for Immigrant Justice

NJAII is a statewide coalition of 43 member organizations that fights for policies that empower immigrants. The Alliance and its members represent over 150,000 New Jerseyans from labor, faith, policy, direct services, and grassroots organizations.

Stop ICE from expanding in New Jersey! A5207 / S3361 to "Future-Proof" New Jersey against ICE

NJ's Detention Deals are Bad Business

Immigration detention is a cruel and inhumane practice that creates chaos and fear for entire communities, and leads to family separations in our own state. NJ jails and detention centers fail to provide adequate medical care and basic living conditions, and frequently violate the basic human rights and dignity of people held inside.

ICE disproportionately targets Black immigrants:

- Black immigrants account for 5.4% of undocumented population, but represented 10.6% of immigrant removal proceedings between 2003-2015.¹
- Non-African detained immigrants had release requests granted at twice the rate as Africans between 2019-2020.²

Arrest, detention, and deportation of family leads to eviction, illness, and crisis. Deportation of an immediate family member can cost ~\$19,000 (~47%) of yearly median income for immigrant households.³

Why NJ Needs A5207 / S3361

A5207 / S3361 would prohibit all state and local agencies from entering into, renewing, or extending immigration detention contracts.

- ICE intends to build two new detention centers in or near NJ.⁴
- Effective immediately, the bill would curtail any expansion of ICE detention bed capacity in the state and hence, limit economic incentives for detaining immigrants. Less beds mean less money made.
- As existing contracts expire, the bill would ban renewals.
- This brings NJ one step closer to truly becoming a fair and welcoming state and sharpens the local and federal call for other policies that advance immigrant communities' rights and empowerment. We demand a "New Jersey for All" NOW!

**A FAIR AND WELCOMING NEW JERSEY MUST BUILD TRUST IN
ACCESS AND OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL WHO CALL IT HOME.**

¹ Zheng, K., Morgan-Trostle, J. (2016). "State of Black Immigrants. NYU Law Immigrant Rights Clinic & BAIJ.

² O'Toole, M., Castillo, A. (2020). "Betrayed Black asylum seekers say Trump administration is ramping up deportations by force and fraud." LA Times.

³ Warren, R., Kerwin, D. (2017). "Mass Deportations Would Impoverish US Families and Create Immense Social Costs." Journal on Migration and Human Security 5(1): 1-8.

⁴ Alvarado, M. (2020) "Will ICE open other detention facilities in New York, New Jersey or Pennsylvania?" NorthJersey.com.