

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-2107**

June 21, 2019

The Honorable Martin J. Walsh  
Mayor, City of Boston  
1 City Hall Square, Suite 500  
Boston, MA 02201-2013

The Honorable Joseph A. Curtatone  
Mayor, City of Somerville  
93 Highland Ave.  
Somerville, MA 02143

The Honorable Carlo DeMaria  
Mayor, City of Everett  
484 Broadway  
Everett, MA 02149

The Honorable Brian Howard  
Acting Town Manager, Town of Randolph  
41 South Main Street  
Randolph, MA 02368

The Honorable Thomas G. Ambrosino  
City Manager, City of Chelsea  
500 Broadway  
Chelsea, MA 02150

The Honorable Michael Denehy  
Town Administrator, Town of Milton  
525 Canton Avenue  
Milton, MA 02186

The Honorable Marc C. McGovern  
Mayor, City of Cambridge  
795 Massachusetts Ave., 2nd Floor  
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Municipal Officials,

I write today as an ally and partner in the fight to defend our immigrant neighbors from the Trump Administration's dangerous attacks. As the proud Representative of the Massachusetts 7th Congressional District, I am committed to working together with you to promote compassionate immigration practices and ensure that immigrant families are treated with the dignity and respect they deserve. The family separations occurring across the country are downright inhumane and we must work in solidarity to safeguard and empower our immigrant Bay Staters who are suffering at the hands of cruel and xenophobic policies.

As municipal leaders, Mayors play a critical role in halting the criminalization of our immigrant communities and creating compassionate and welcoming neighborhoods for all families, agnostic of their immigration status. Together, we must continue to exemplify activist, empathetic leadership. I urge you to continue to work in partnership with advocates in community to protect immigrant families in the Massachusetts 7th from any and all efforts on behalf of the US Immigration and Customs Enforcement to ramp up detention and deportation efforts.

Our humanity is tied and I know you and I share a fundamental belief that when one of us is under attack, we are all under attack. Over the last two years, the Trump Administration has promoted xenophobic immigration policies and executed a mass detention agenda that has resulted in the criminalization, deportation and separation of families. But what we know to be true is that immigrants make our communities stronger. Across the Massachusetts 7th Congressional District, more than 250,000 foreign-born residents are contributing immensely to the economic, social and cultural vibrancy of our communities.

This week,

- The occupant of the White House threatened to pursue a mass deportation operation, targeting up to 2,000 immigrant families including those with young children in cities across the nation - stoking fear in immigrant communities across the country and appeasing his political base.
- A Trump Administration official implied that immigrant children don't need toothbrushes nor soap while they remain in ICE/CBP custody.
- Ken Cuccinelli, the acting head of the Citizenship and Immigration Service, instructed asylum officers to deny people seeking refuge - seeking asylum is legal and protected by U.S. and International laws.

We must take this moment as an opportunity, as elected officials charged with defending and protecting our community to stand in strong solidarity with our immigrant brothers and sisters.

This Administration has made clear, time and time again, that it operates with a deficit of empathy. We must not follow suit. As your ally and partner in Washington, I along with my staff stand ready to support our immigrant families and block this Administration's xenophobic immigration agenda. Please do not hesitate to reach out.

In solidarity,



Ayanna Pressley  
Member of Congress  
Massachusetts 7th Congressional District