



## Stop Anti-Immigrant Legislation in PA (2017-18)

Starting on the first day of the 2017-18 legislative session, Pennsylvania legislators began introducing bills targeting immigrant and refugee communities. Many state legislators believe that because both President Trump and Senator Toomey campaigned on the idea of punishing “Sanctuary Cities” in particular and immigrant/refugee communities in general, that they should follow suit and introduce and support punitive, discriminatory policies that target immigrant and refugee communities. Below is a summary of anti-immigrant bills introduced in PA as of January 1, 2018. Find information about your local legislators at: [www.legis.state.pa.us](http://www.legis.state.pa.us).

On February 7, 2017, the PA Senate passed SB10, a bill targeting the many counties and cities in Pennsylvania that have policies limiting local law enforcement collaboration with ICE. This bill will now be considered by the PA House.

On September 26, 2017, the PA House passed HB1095, a bill to require additional proof of lawful presence to obtain public benefits. This bill will now be considered by the PA Senate.

### Public Benefits Bills

- **Senate Bill 9 (SB9):** Requires additional proof of citizenship to obtain public benefits. Would create a misdemeanor offense for use of fraudulently obtained or counterfeit access device. Senator STEFANO. Introduced 1/20/17.
- **House Bill 826 (HB826):** Amends the criminal code to create a felony offense for the possession, use, or attempted use of a benefit transfer device by an unauthorized immigrant. Representative HEFFLEY. Introduced 3/13/17.
- **House Bill 1095 (HB1095):** Would require additional proof of lawful presence in the United States to obtain public benefits. Would create a felony offense for unauthorized possession or use of an access device. Representative HEFFLEY. Introduced 4/12/17.

### Employment Bills:

- **Senate Bill 602 (SB602):** Would require all government entities to participate in E-Verify. Would permit municipalities and counties to enact ordinances prohibiting employment and restricting housing rentals to undocumented immigrants. Senator RAFFERTY. Introduced 4/13/17.
- **House Bill 459 (HB459):** Would create a civil fine of \$5,000 and potentially revoke the professional license for any employer who employs an undocumented worker as defined by the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA). Representative DeLUCA. Introduced 2/13/17.
- **House Bill 856 (HB856):** Would mandate the use of E-Verify by all employers. Includes penalty of suspending all state-issued licenses for employers of unauthorized immigrants. Representative METCALFE. Introduced 3/13/17.
- **House Bill 1340 (HB1340):** Would require the use of E-Verify for all construction industry employers. Representative GALLOWAY. Introduced 5/5/17.

### Anti “Sanctuary City” Bills:

- **Senate Bill 10 (SB10):** Attempts to punish so-called “Sanctuary Cities” by withholding state grants. The definition of “Sanctuary City” includes policies that prohibit enforcement of state or federal laws or policies that instruct law enforcement not to honor immigration orders. Includes annual certification requirements. Senator RESCHENTHALER. Introduced 1/20/17.
- **House Bill 28 (HB28):** Would hold “sanctuary municipalities” liable for damages caused by the criminal activity of unauthorized immigrants. Would require law enforcement to report anyone



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they reasonably suspect of being undocumented to federal immigration authorities. Representative WHITE. Introduced 4/3/17.

- **Senate Bill 673 (SB673):** Would authorize the Pennsylvania State Police to negotiate a memorandum of understanding with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) concerning the enforcement of Federal immigration and custom laws, detention, removals, and investigations in the Commonwealth. Would effectively sign up the state police for the 287(g) program. Senator RAFFERTY. Introduced 5/4/17.

## Anti “Sanctuary Campus” Bills:

- **Senate Bill 273 (SB273):** Attempts to punish institutions of higher education with “Sanctuary Campus” policies by withholding state funding. The definition of “sanctuary campus” or “disqualifying immigration policy” includes policies that prohibit the enforcement of federal immigration law; refuses access by federal authorities without a warrant, or directs employees not to coordinate with federal authorities. Includes annual certification requirements. Senator RAFFERTY. Introduced 1/31/17.
- **House Bill 14 (HB14):** Attempts to withhold state funding from “Sanctuary Campuses.” The definition of “Sanctuary Campus” includes policies that prohibit the enforcement of federal immigration law; refuses access by federal authorities without a warrant; or directs employees not to coordinate with federal authorities. Representative KNOWLES. Introduced 1/23/17.

## Pro-Immigrant Bills:

### Tuition Equity Bills:

- **Senate Bill 825 (SB825):** Would provide in-state tuition for undocumented students who have attended at least 2 years of secondary school in Pennsylvania or graduated or equivalent from a Pennsylvania institution. Senator SCHWANK. Introduced 6/29/17.
- **House Bill 1042 (HB1042):** Would provide in-state tuition and access to financial aid for undocumented students who have attended at least 2 years of secondary school in Pennsylvania or graduated or equivalent from a Pennsylvania institution. Representative SCHWEYER. Introduced 4/3/17.

### “Trust Act” Bills:

- **House Bill 1604 (HB1604):** Law enforcement may not inquire about immigration status except when required by law; may not detain people based on ICE holds; perform function of immigration officers; share private information with ICE unless required by law; use federal authorities as interpreters for law enforcement matters. The Attorney General shall publish model policies for limiting assistance with federal immigration enforcement for public schools, health facilities, and other public agencies. Representative RABB. Introduced 6/22/17.