



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

Motion 16947

Proposed No. 2026-0018.2

Sponsors Mosqueda, Dembowski,
Balducci, Barón and Perry

1 A MOTION related to current federal immigration
2 enforcement practices and directing the clerk of the council
3 to send a copy of this motion to the members of
4 Washington's congressional delegation representing King
5 County.

6 WHEREAS, the Trump Administration's assault on communities in the name of
7 immigration enforcement is eroding our constitutional rights and endangering residents,
8 and

9 WHEREAS, immigration authorities are using increasingly dangerous tactics,
10 such as engaging in unprovoked violence, pointing guns at civilians, and deploying
11 chemical weapons, and

12 WHEREAS, in multiple cities, agents from U.S. Immigration and Customs
13 Enforcement ("ICE") and U.S. Customs and Border Protection have violently arrested
14 civilians, including U.S. citizens, and deployed chemical weapons without warning in
15 residential areas, harming school children and even local law enforcement, and

16 WHEREAS, from September 2025 through January 2026, immigration agents
17 have shot twelve individuals, including three who died as a result: Silverio Villegas
18 González, a father of two, in Chicago; Renee Good, a U.S. citizen and mother of three, in
19 Minneapolis; and Alex Pretti, a U.S. citizen and federal employee who served as an

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20 intensive care nurse for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, also in Minneapolis,

21 and

22 WHEREAS, conditions in immigration detention facilities are rapidly

23 deteriorating with facilities dangerously overcrowded and detained individuals and

24 advocates reporting medical neglect, substandard food, inadequate access to clean water,

25 and overuse of solitary confinement, and

26 WHEREAS, about ninety percent of people being detained are in for-profit

27 facilities, which have a long record of cutting corners on essential services to reap profits,

28 and

29 WHEREAS, since President Trump took office on January 20, 2025, an

30 unprecedented thirty-seven people have died in the custody of ICE, including several

31 deaths that may have been preventable, and

32 WHEREAS, the federal immigration system is a civil system, not a criminal

33 system, and immigration detention is intended to be non-punitive, as stated on ICE's own

34 website;

35 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

36 A. The council calls for an end to the aggressive and dangerous surges of U.S.

37 Immigration and Customs Enforcement and U.S. Customs and Border Protection, and an

38 end to improper U.S. Border Patrol deployments in communities across the country, both

39 of which are undermining public safety, endangering the health and safety of residents,

40 unduly harming children and vulnerable adults, and violating the legal and constitutional

41 rights of American citizens and immigrants and refugees.

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42 B. The council calls on the United States Congress not to provide any additional
43 funding for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security ("DHS") without including
44 meaningful and significant guardrails to rein in the agency and how it operates in
45 communities. The council expresses support for guardrails that would:

46 1. End lawlessness in enforcement including by requiring DHS to get a judicial
47 warrant, stop using masked agents for immigration enforcement actions, and prohibiting
48 enforcement at sensitive locations;

49 2. End detention abuses by ending the use of private, for-profit detention
50 prisons, prohibiting funding for facilities that threaten the health, safety, or due process
51 rights of detained people, and restoring access to bond hearings; and

52 3. Rein in DHS by ensuring independent investigations of lawlessness and
53 violence perpetrated by immigration agents and meaningful consequences for agents
54 engaging in unprovoked violence and violations of individual's constitutional rights,
55 including mandatory referral for excessive use of force, in-custody deaths, and firearm
56 discharges.

57 C. The council calls on Congress to deliberate a plan to restructure DHS to bring
58 more accountability to this sprawling agency, to ensure that DHS's essential national
59 security and public safety functions, including cyber security and emergency
60 management, can be separated from immigration enforcement, and to completely rebuild
61 immigration enforcement agencies from the ground up to stop the culture of lawlessness
62 and ensure guardrails and accountability.

63 D. The clerk of the council is directed to send a copy of this motion to the
64 members of Washington's congressional delegation representing King County, which

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65 includes both U.S. Senators and U.S. Representatives from the first, seventh, eighth, and
66 ninth congressional districts.

Motion 16947 was introduced on 1/27/2026 and passed as amended by the
Metropolitan King County Council on 1/27/2026, by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Balducci, Barón, Dembowski, Dunn, Fain, Lewis,
Mosqueda, Perry and von Reichbauer

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Signed by:

Sarah Perry

062AC77E76FB49B...

Sarah Perry, Chair

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:

Melani Hay

8DE1BB375AD3422...

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

Attachments: None

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