

119TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 7612

To amend chapter 93 of title 18, United States Code, to prohibit obstruction of immigration laws by official interference.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 20, 2026

Mr. GOODEN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

To amend chapter 93 of title 18, United States Code, to prohibit obstruction of immigration laws by official interference.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “End Sanctuary Cities  
5 Act of 2026”.

6 **SEC. 2. OBSTRUCTION OF IMMIGRATION LAWS BY OFFICIAL**  
7 **INTERFERENCE.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 93 of title 18, United  
9 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
10 lowing:

1 **“§ 1925. Obstruction of immigration laws by official**  
2 **interference**

3 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

4 “(1) the term ‘criminal alien’ means an alien  
5 (as defined in section 101(a) of the Immigration and  
6 Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1001(a))) who has been  
7 charged with or convicted of a crime under Federal  
8 or State law;

9 “(2) the terms ‘Federal sex offense’ and ‘minor’  
10 have the meanings given such terms in section  
11 3559(e)(2);

12 “(3) the term ‘immigration laws’ has the mean-  
13 ing given that term in section 101(a) of the Immi-  
14 gration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a));

15 “(4) the term ‘reasonable advance notice’, with  
16 respect to the release of a criminal alien, means no-  
17 tice regarding the scheduled release date and time of  
18 the criminal alien that is provided as early as prac-  
19 ticable and, unless impossible, at least 48 hours  
20 prior to release;

21 “(5) the term ‘responsible executive official’,  
22 with respect to a law, regulation, policy, practice, or  
23 action, means the most senior executive official of a  
24 State or unit of government charged with overseeing  
25 execution of the law, regulation, policy, practice, or  
26 action;

1           “(6) the term ‘serious violent felony’ has the  
2 meaning given that term in section 3559(c)(2);

3           “(7) the terms ‘State’ and ‘unit of local govern-  
4 ment’ have the meanings given such terms in section  
5 901(a) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe  
6 Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10251(a)); and

7           “(8) the term ‘State sex offense’ means a State  
8 or Military sex offense (as defined in section  
9 3559(e)(2)) that is an offense under State law.

10          “(b) PROHIBITED CONDUCT.—It shall be unlawful  
11 for any responsible executive official of a State or unit of  
12 local government, acting under color of law, to knowingly  
13 prohibit, limit, or restrict compliance with any formal re-  
14 quest under the immigration laws by the Department of  
15 Homeland Security for reasonable advance notice regard-  
16 ing the release of a criminal alien, including through es-  
17 tablishing, directing, implementing, or enforcing any perti-  
18 nent law, regulation, policy, practice, or action.

19          “(c) PENALTIES.—A person who violates subsection  
20 (b)—

21           “(1) if the violation results in the release from  
22 custody of a criminal alien who has been charged  
23 with or convicted of an offense consisting of murder,  
24 rape, or a Federal sex offense or State sex offense  
25 against a minor, shall be fined under this title, im-

1       prisoned for not less than 10 years and not more  
2       than 25 years, or both;

3           “(2) if the violation results in the release from  
4       custody of a criminal alien who has been charged  
5       with or convicted of an offense that is a serious vio-  
6       lent felony, shall be fined under this title, imprisoned  
7       for not less than 5 years and not more than 10  
8       years, or both; or

9           “(3) if the violation results in the release from  
10      custody of a criminal alien who has been charged  
11      with or convicted of any other Federal or State  
12      criminal offense, shall be fined under this title, im-  
13      prisoned for not less than 30 days and not more  
14      than 6 months, or both.”.

15      (b) SEVERABILITY CLAUSE.—If any provision of this  
16      Act, an amendment made by this Act, or the application  
17      of such a provision or amendment to any particular person  
18      or circumstance is held invalid, the remaining provisions  
19      of this Act and the amendments made by this Act, and  
20      the application of such remaining provisions and amend-  
21      ments to any other person or circumstance, shall not be  
22      affected thereby.

23      (c) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—  
24      The table of sections for chapter 93 of title 18, United

- 1 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
- 2 lowing:

“1925. Obstruction of immigration laws by official interference.”.

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