

# STATE OF NEW YORK

8539

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

## IN SENATE

October 22, 2025

Introduced by Sen. RAMOS -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Rules

AN ACT to amend the executive law, in relation to the use of state or municipal property for civil immigration enforcement activity and providing protections for persons on such property

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Short title. This act shall be known and may be cited as  
2 the "New York state ICE-free zones act".

3 § 2. The executive law is amended by adding a new subdivision 170-k to  
4 read as follows:

5 § 170-k. Civil immigration enforcement activity on state or municipal  
6 property. 1. Definitions. As used in this section:

7 (a) "State or municipal property" means any real property or facility  
8 owned, leased, controlled, or managed by the state or any municipal  
9 subdivision thereof or by any department, bureau, board, commission,  
10 authority or any other agency or instrumentality of the state or any  
11 municipal subdivision thereof.

12 (b) "Civil immigration enforcement activity" means detention, arrest,  
13 questioning, processing, transportation, or surveillance conducted by  
14 United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement or any federal officer  
15 or employee who is responsible for enforcement of the federal Immi-  
16 gration and Nationality Act, in connection with civil removal  
17 proceedings; provided, however, that "civil immigration enforcement  
18 activity" does not include any such action conducted with a valid judi-  
19 cial warrant.

20 (c) "Immigration enforcement officer" means any federal officer or  
21 employee who is responsible for enforcement of the federal Immigration  
22 and Nationality Act, in connection with civil removal proceedings, and  
23 shall include any employee of the United States Immigration and Customs  
24 Enforcement.

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets  
[-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 (d) "Judicial warrant" means a warrant or order that is signed by a  
2 United States district judge or federal magistrate judge and that demon-  
3 strates probable cause to believe an individual has committed a crime or  
4 offense.

5 (e) "Designated signage" means signage, posted in conspicuous  
6 locations, stating that property may not be used for civil immigration  
7 enforcement activity.

8 (f) "Responsible official" means the person or office, or the designee  
9 of such person or office, with operational responsibility for the state  
10 or municipal property. "Responsible official" shall include, but not be  
11 limited to, facility managers and superintendents of such property.

12 2. No state or municipal property may be used, occupied, leased,  
13 loaned, or otherwise made available, whether temporarily or permanently,  
14 for civil immigration enforcement activity unless such civil immigration  
15 enforcement activity is conducted pursuant to a valid judicial warrant  
16 which specifies that such activity may be conducted at a particular  
17 property for a specified civil immigration enforcement activity.

18 3. (a) Within thirty days after the effective date of this section,  
19 the responsible official of each state or municipal property shall  
20 provide designated signage at entrances of such property or near staging  
21 areas, parking lots, or other areas of such property that are accessible  
22 to the public or federal personnel stating that such property is public-  
23 ly owned and may not be used for civil immigration enforcement activity  
24 by immigration enforcement officers without a valid judicial warrant.

25 (b) In addition to the signage required pursuant to paragraph (a) of  
26 this subdivision, the responsible official may also place physical  
27 barriers as appropriate to restrict access to parts of state or muni-  
28 cipal property that are not intended for public access; provided, however,  
29 that such physical barriers shall not unreasonably interfere with the  
30 normal public use of such state or municipal property.

31 4. No person present on state or municipal property shall be subject  
32 to questioning, detention, or arrest by an immigration enforcement offi-  
33 cer unless the immigration enforcement officer presents a valid judicial  
34 warrant applicable to such person or location.

35 5. Any responsible official who becomes aware of an attempted or actu-  
36 al violation of subdivision four of this section shall notify the attor-  
37 ney general who may investigate and bring an action in the state supreme  
38 court and may recover any reasonable costs incurred as a result of  
39 investigation.

40 6. This section is intended to regulate the use of state or municipal  
41 property and shall not be construed to regulate the conduct of federal  
42 agencies in federal territories.

43 § 3. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall  
44 have become a law.