

# LOCALITIES RIGHTS: DON'T MANDATE LOCAL IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT

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In 2017 The NC Senate voted to strip cities deemed as “sanctuary cities” of state funding. Localities that would not divert local resources to enforce federal immigration law and detain immigrants would now be punished by the state. Gone would be city street funding, beer and wine tax revenue, taxes on natural gases and scrap tire disposal services, sales tax on video programming, taxes on telecommunication (Campbell). In total, these revenues are worth \$337 million for state. This Senate Bill 145 was put in place the North Carolina’s 2015 ban on sanctuary cities—but at what cost?

## **Municipalities Rights:**

Municipalities rights have been stripped as the local resources of towns and cities across North Carolina have been diverted to enforcing a piece of Federal legislation. NC Senate Bill 145 was put in place by a Republican Legislature that values immigration enforcement as well as the rights of states and municipalities to have autonomy from the federal government. Under Senate Bill 145 these two things conflict. Though there was already a state ban on so called “sanctuary cities” this new bill threatens to take away invaluable funding from localities if they do not divert their own resources and

if they do not divert their own resources and personnel including hardworking and already stretched-thin law enforcement officials to enforce Federal Legislation (Booth) Local law enforcement will have fewer resources to expend towards the safety of their community and will be stretched thin by a federal mandate that was not made with the interests of small, tight-budgeted municipalities in mind.

**Stop Federal Government Overreach:** As of right now, there are no sanctuary cities in North Carolina and there is no reason to believe that that will change with the repeal

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT WILL HAVE FEWER RESOURCES TO EXPEND TOWARDS THE SAFETY OF THEIR COMMUNITY AND WILL BE STRETCHED THIN BY A FEDERAL MANDATE THAT WAS NOT MADE WITH THE INTERESTS OF SMALL, TIGHT-BUDGETED MUNICIPALITIES IN MIND.

of Senate Bill 145. The original 2015 ban on Sanctuary Cities will stay in place and will continue to mandate that localities enforce federal law. But, with the repeal of this bill, North Carolina will no longer be forcing localities to enforce federal law, which is a clear violation of the 10<sup>th</sup> Amendment. The 10<sup>th</sup> Amendment, which enacted federalism and gave states autonomy and rights separate from the

# SANCTUARY CITIES: SURPRISING STATS

## COMMUNITY WELFARE

In a recent survey it was reported that if local law enforcement officials were working together with ICE, 60.8 percent of San Diego immigrant residents said they are less likely to report a crime they witnessed, and 42.9 percent said they are less likely to report being a victim of a crime (Wong).



## THE ECONOMY

Sanctuary cities are known for having better economic conditions. Sanctuary cities have lower poverty (by 2.3 percent), higher median incomes (by about \$4,353), and slightly lower unemployment rates (1.1 percent). In smaller counties these positive effects were even more positive, where the contributions of each individual immigrant were likely to have a larger impact (Misra).



## COSTS

In 2017, in Virginia, if local law enforcement had fulfilled the 3,500 detainer requests from ICE for two days it would have cost the state \$830,000 (Burns and Goren).



## GIVE COUNTIES AUTONOMY

Local law enforcement agencies are being stripped of their autonomy and their ability to use their resources and their funds in ways that best suit the needs of their localities. It should not be mandated that counties use their resources and manpower to enforce Federal legislation that may or may not be in the best interest of the varied municipalities across North Carolina.

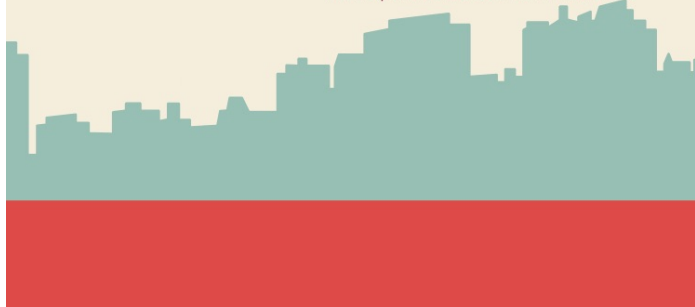


autonomy and rights separate from the federal government created the bedrock by which our nation and North Carolina stands. This amendment mandated that state and local governments do not have to enforce federal law (Sullivan, 583). By forcing municipalities to enforce federal legislation with the threat of rescinded state funding, the North Carolina has violated the great amendment that gives it its power: that state governments should have power over the states and that local governments should have power over their localities.

## Repeal Senate Bill 145:

For these reasons you should vote to repeal Senate Bill 145: as someone who values the autonomy granted to states and localities against the tyranny of a federal government that is forever growing larger and expanding its scope of power and influence. For the little guy: for the local law enforcement agent who works hard all day as a civil servant and does not need to have the strain of added duties when he and his colleagues are working hard each and every day to keep the great citizens of the state of North Carolina safe.

Immigration law is important and that is why the federal government has addressed it. But to mandate that localities divert resources and personnel to enforce a piece of federal legislation is wrong and contradicts conservative values. Repeal Senate Bill 145 and give municipalities their rights back.



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