

# HICKENLOOPER'S RECORD ON IMMIGRATION

## HIGHLIGHTS

### HICKENLOOPER HAS BEEN FIGHTING TO ENSURE THAT IMMIGRANTS' RIGHTS WERE PROTECTED AGAINST THREATS FROM THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION

- Hickenlooper has refused to give another penny to ICE until the agency was overhauled and held accountable.
- Hickenlooper has promoted transparency in immigration enforcement, introducing the Immigration Enforcement Identification Safety Act of 2025 requiring ICE agents to display identification during stops and has supported allowing Americans to sue ICE for misconduct.
- Hickenlooper has taken legislative measures to protect immigrants at sensitive locations such as schools, hospitals, and churches.
  - Hickenlooper helped introduce the Protecting Sensitive Locations Act to limit immigration arrests at sensitive locations like schools, hospitals, and churches.
  - Hickenlooper called out the Trump Administration's efforts to arrest noncriminal immigrants at their court hearings.
- Hickenlooper has conducted numerous congressional oversight visits of the ICE facilities in Colorado in an attempt to get answers to protect constituents and demanded the agency to stop denying access.
- Hickenlooper has denounced the cruelty and mistreatment of immigrants at detention centers and fought to get people released.
- Hickenlooper demanded answers after racist death cards were left by ICE in the cars of detained immigrants as intimidation tactics.
- Hickenlooper has fought to secure access to counsel for immigrants amid Trump's attempts to fire them.
  - Hickenlooper criticized the Trump Administration's decision to fire key immigration judges amid a backlog of cases.
  - Hickenlooper helped introduce The Access To Counsel Act Of 2025 to assist in contacting attorneys for those detained by Customs and Border Patrol.
  - Hickenlooper helped introduce The Fair Day In Court For Kids Act of 2025 to guarantee legal representation for unaccompanied children and other vulnerable immigrants in court.
- Hickenlooper helped introduced the National Origin-Based Antidiscrimination for Nonimmigrants (NO BAN) Act to prevent immigration bans based on religion or nationality.

### **HICKENLOOPER HAS BEEN FIGHTING TO ENSURE THAT IMMIGRANTS' RIGHTS WERE PROTECTED AGAINST THREATS FROM THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION**

### **HICKENLOOPER HAS REFUSED TO GIVE ANOTHER PENNY TO ICE UNTIL THE AGENCY WAS OVERHAULED AND HELD ACCOUNTABLE**

**Hickenlooper: "ICE Is Still Out Of Control: Agents Hiding Behind Masks, Ignoring Warrants, And Answering To No One. We Won't Give Up Until This Agency Is Totally Overhauled."** "Sen. John Hickenlooper (D) 'The Republicans accepted what we offered weeks ago: pay TSA workers without a single dime for ICE. But the fight does not stop here. ICE is still out of control: agents hiding behind masks, ignoring warrants, and answering to no one. We won't give up until this agency is totally overhauled.'" [Fox31, [3/27/26](#)]

**Hickenlooper: "We're Going To Put On That Paramilitaristic Fascist Police Force That They Call ICE Every One Of The Restraints That Every Police Force In America Has."** "But we're going to put on that paramilitaristic fascist police force that they call ICE every one of the restraints that every police force in America has. I'm talking no roving vans, I'm

talking about having, making sure that you have warrants to pick somebody up, a judicial warrant, making sure that their body cameras, they wear them, that there are no masks, that we will for once and for all, hold them liable civilly, so they can be sued for misconduct, just like every police officer in this country does.” [Instagram, johnhickenlooper, [2/5/26](#)] (VIDEO)

**February 12, 2026: Hickenlooper Voted Against Cloture On The Motion To Proceed On H.R.7147 To Provide Funding For The Department Of Homeland Security.** “This bill provides continuing FY2026 appropriations to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) through May 22, 2026. It is known as a continuing resolution (CR) and ends the partial DHS shutdown that began on February 14, 2026, due to a lapse in appropriations for DHS.” [United States Senate, 119<sup>th</sup> Congress 2<sup>nd</sup> Session, H.R.7147, Roll Call Vote, 38, [2/12/26](#)]

**February 24, 2026: Hickenlooper Voted Against Cloture On The Motion To Proceed On H.R.7147 To Provide Funding For The Department Of Homeland Security.** “This bill provides continuing FY2026 appropriations to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) through May 22, 2026. It is known as a continuing resolution (CR) and ends the partial DHS shutdown that began on February 14, 2026, due to a lapse in appropriations for DHS.” [United States Senate, 119<sup>th</sup> Congress 2<sup>nd</sup> Session, H.R.7147, Roll Call Vote, 39, [2/24/26](#)]

**March 5, 2026: Hickenlooper Voted Against Cloture On The Motion To Proceed On H.R.7147 To Provide Funding For The Department Of Homeland Security.** “This bill provides continuing FY2026 appropriations to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) through May 22, 2026. It is known as a continuing resolution (CR) and ends the partial DHS shutdown that began on February 14, 2026, due to a lapse in appropriations for DHS.” [United States Senate, 119<sup>th</sup> Congress 2<sup>nd</sup> Session, H.R.7147, Roll Call Vote, 47, [3/5/26](#)]

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**March 20, 2026: Hickenlooper Voted Against Cloture On The Motion To Proceed On H.R.7147 To Provide Funding For The Department Of Homeland Security.** “This bill provides continuing FY2026 appropriations to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) through May 22, 2026. It is known as a continuing resolution (CR) and ends the partial DHS shutdown that began on February 14, 2026, due to a lapse in appropriations for DHS.” [United States Senate, 119<sup>th</sup> Congress 2<sup>nd</sup> Session, H.R.7147, Roll Call Vote, 59, [3/20/26](#)]

**March 25, 2026: Hickenlooper Voted Against Cloture On The Motion To Proceed On H.R.7147 To Provide Funding For The Department Of Homeland Security.** “This bill provides continuing FY2026 appropriations to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) through May 22, 2026. It is known as a continuing resolution (CR) and ends the partial DHS shutdown that began on February 14, 2026, due to a lapse in appropriations for DHS.” [United States Senate, 119<sup>th</sup> Congress 2<sup>nd</sup> Session, H.R.7147, Roll Call Vote, 71, [3/25/26](#)]

**March 26, 2026: Hickenlooper Voted Against Cloture On The Motion To Proceed On H.R.7147 To Provide Funding For The Department Of Homeland Security.** “This bill provides continuing FY2026 appropriations to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) through May 22, 2026. It is known as a continuing resolution (CR) and ends the partial DHS shutdown that began on February 14, 2026, due to a lapse in appropriations for DHS.” [United States Senate, 119<sup>th</sup> Congress 2<sup>nd</sup> Session, H.R.7147, Roll Call Vote, 74, [3/26/26](#)]

**April 21, 2026: Hickenlooper Voted Against The Motion To Proceed On S.Con.Res.33 To Provide Funding For The Department Of Homeland Security.** “This concurrent resolution establishes the congressional budget for the federal government for FY2026, sets forth budgetary levels for FY2027-FY2035, and provides reconciliation instructions for legislation that increases the deficit. [...] The resolution includes reconciliation instructions that direct the House Homeland Security Committee, the House Judiciary Committee, the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, and the Senate Judiciary Committee to submit recommendations for legislation that will increase the deficit over FY2026-FY2035 by not more than \$70 billion. Each committee must submit the recommendations to the House or Senate Budget Committee by May 15, 2026.” [United States Senate, 119<sup>th</sup> Congress 2<sup>nd</sup> Session, S.Con.Res.33, Roll Call Vote, 87, [4/21/26](#)]

**April 23, 2026: Hickenlooper Voted Against The Concurrent Resolution S.Con.Res.33 To Provide Funding For The Department Of Homeland Security.** “This concurrent resolution establishes the congressional budget for the federal government for FY2026, sets forth budgetary levels for FY2027-FY2035, and provides reconciliation instructions for legislation that increases the deficit. [...] The resolution includes reconciliation instructions that direct the House Homeland Security Committee, the House Judiciary Committee, the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, and the Senate Judiciary Committee to submit recommendations for legislation that will increase the deficit over FY2026-FY2035 by not more than \$70 billion. Each committee must submit the recommendations to the House or

## **HICKENLOOPER HAS PROMOTED TRANSPARENCY IN IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT, CO-SPONSORING LEGISLATION REQUIRING ICE AGENTS TO DISPLAY IDENTIFICATION DURING STOPS AND HAS SUPPORTED ALLOWING AMERICANS TO SUE ICE FOR MISCONDUCT**

**August 2025: Hickenlooper Co-Sponsored The Immigration Enforcement Identification Safety Act Of 2025 To Require ICE Agents To Display Visible Identification During Enforcement Actions.** “To amend section 236 of the Immigration and Nationality Act to require immigration enforcement officers of the Department of Homeland Security to display visible identification during enforcement actions and provide privacy enhancing services.” [United States Senate, 119th Congress 1st Session, S. 2594, co-sponsored [8/1/25](#)]

- **The Immigration Enforcement Identification Safety Act Of 2025 Also Included A Provision To Provide Privacy Enhancing Services For ICE Agents To Mitigate Privacy Risks They Might Face While Working.** “To amend section 236 of the Immigration and Nationality Act to require immigration enforcement officers of the Department of Homeland Security to display visible identification during enforcement actions and provide privacy enhancing services. [...] (c) Privacy-Enhancing services.—The term ‘privacy-enhancing services’ means any software or hardware solution, technical process, technique, or other technological means of mitigating privacy risks arising from data processing, including by eliminating, reducing, or suppressing personal information, including restricted personal information (as defined in section 119(b)(1) of title 18, United States Code).” [United States Senate, 119th Congress 1st Session, S. 2594, co-sponsored [8/1/25](#)]

**Hickenlooper: “We Will For Once And For All, Hold Them Liable Civilly, So They Can Be Sued For Misconduct.”** “But we’re going to put on that paramilitaristic fascist police force that they call ICE every one of the restraints that every police force in America has. I’m talking no roving vans, I’m talking about having, making sure that you have warrants to pick somebody up, a judicial warrant, making sure that their body cameras, they wear them, that there are no masks, that we will for once and for all, hold them liable civilly, so they can be sued for misconduct, just like every police officer in this country does.” [Instagram, [johnhickenlooper, 2/5/26](#)] (VIDEO)

## **HICKENLOOPER HAS TAKEN LEGISLATIVE MEASURES TO PROTECT IMMIGRANTS AT SENSITIVE LOCATIONS SUCH AS SCHOOLS, HOSPITALS, AND CHURCHES**

**February 2025: Hickenlooper Helped Introduce The Protecting Sensitive Locations Act To Limit Immigration Arrests At Sensitive Locations Like Schools, Hospitals, And Churches.** “Nearly a week after ICE and other federal agencies conducted raids in the Denver metro, immigrant communities are still on edge, worried about what could happen next. U.S. Senators Michael Bennet and John Hickenlooper have introduced legislation in Congress to limit the locations where ICE agents can arrest people. The Protecting Sensitive Locations Act would prevent U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) from making arrests within 1,000 feet of sensitive locations, which the bill defines as schools, churches, food pantries, healthcare facilities, bus stops, playgrounds, daycare centers, vaccination and testing sites, weddings, funerals, rallies, marches, parades and several other locations. The legislation comes just weeks after the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) rescinded a 2021 policy that prevented ICE agents from making arrests at schools, churches, and hospitals.” [Denver 7, [2/12/25](#)]

**The Protecting Sensitive Locations Act Followed ICE Raids In Denver After The Department Of Homeland Security Rescinded A 2021 Policy Preventing ICE Agents From Making Arrests At Schools, Churches, And Hospitals.** “Nearly a week after ICE and other federal agencies conducted raids in the Denver metro, immigrant communities are still on edge, worried about what could happen next. U.S. Senators Michael Bennet and John Hickenlooper have introduced legislation in Congress to limit the locations where ICE agents can arrest people. The Protecting Sensitive Locations Act would prevent U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) from making arrests within 1,000 feet of sensitive locations, which the bill defines as schools, churches, food pantries, healthcare facilities, bus stops, playgrounds, daycare centers, vaccination and testing sites, weddings, funerals, rallies, marches, parades and several other locations. The legislation comes just weeks after the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) rescinded a 2021 policy that prevented ICE agents from making arrests at schools, churches, and hospitals.” [Denver 7, [2/12/25](#)]

- **January 2025: The Trump Administration Rescinded Biden Era Guidance That Created Protected Areas.** “Immigration authorities can now enter schools, healthcare facilities and places of worship to conduct arrests, according to a new policy from the Department of Homeland Security. ‘Criminals will no longer be able to hide in America’s schools and churches to avoid arrest,’ a DHS spokesperson said in a statement. ‘The Trump administration will not tie the hands of our brave law enforcement, and instead trusts them to use common sense.’ The directive, which covers agents from Immigration and Customs Enforcement and Customs and Border Protection, rescinds guidance from the Biden administration that created ‘protected areas’ that primarily consisted

of places where 'children gather, disaster or emergency relief sites, and social services establishments.'" [NPR, [1/21/25](#)]

- **The Department Of Homeland Security: "Criminals Will No Longer Be Able To Hide In America's Schools And Churches To Avoid Arrest."** "Immigration authorities can now enter schools, healthcare facilities and places of worship to conduct arrests, according to a new policy from the Department of Homeland Security. 'Criminals will no longer be able to hide in America's schools and churches to avoid arrest,' a DHS spokesperson said in a statement. 'The Trump administration will not tie the hands of our brave law enforcement, and instead trusts them to use common sense.' The directive, which covers agents from Immigration and Customs Enforcement and Customs and Border Protection, rescinds guidance from the Biden administration that created 'protected areas' that primarily consisted of places where 'children gather, disaster or emergency relief sites, and social services establishments.'" [NPR, [1/21/25](#)]
- **In Early February When ICE Conducted Raids, There Were Reports Of ICE Agents Blocking School Buses From Picking Up Children And Preventing Families From Leaving Their Homes.** "Nearly a week after ICE and other federal agencies conducted raids in the Denver metro, immigrant communities are still on edge, worried about what could happen next. U.S. Senators Michael Bennet and John Hickenlooper have introduced legislation in Congress to limit the locations where ICE agents can arrest people. [...] When ICE and other federal law enforcement agents conducted raids in the Denver area last week, there were reports of agents blocking school buses from picking up children. A family Denver7 spoke with said they were unable to take their daughter to school because of the raid at their apartment complex." [Denver 7, [2/12/25](#)]
- **Hickenlooper Said About Introducing The Protecting Sensitive Locations Act: "Targeting Kids And Families Who Haven't Committed A Crime – Especially At Their Schools, Hospitals, Or Places Of Worship – Doesn't Get Us Any Closer To Fixing Our Broken Immigration System."** "U.S. Senators Michael Bennet and John Hickenlooper have introduced legislation in Congress to limit the locations where ICE agents can arrest people. [...] 'We all want criminals off our streets and a more secure border,' Hickenlooper said. 'Targeting kids and families who haven't committed a crime – especially at their schools, hospitals, or places of worship – doesn't get us any closer to fixing our broken immigration system.'" [Denver 7, [2/12/25](#)]

**July 2025: Hickenlooper Joined 23 Of His Colleagues Calling Out The Trump Administration's Efforts To Arrest Noncriminal Immigrants At Their Court Hearings And Deport Them Without Due Process.** "We are extremely concerned by reports of a recent initiative to arrest and detain noncitizens at their immigration court hearings, and in many cases, dismiss their immigration cases without advance notice and while hiding the government's intent to arrest them. Some reports indicated that plain-clothed Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) personnel stationed outside of immigration courtrooms had lists of cases marked for dismissal and even photos of the individuals they intended to arrest. [...] These actions prevent noncitizens from having their fair day in court and raise serious legal and due process concerns. They also make clear that this Administration is not targeting the worst criminals and threats to public safety, instead redirecting staff and resources away from drug trafficking and human trafficking and towards these operations targeting noncriminal immigrants who are following the law and showing up for their day in court. [...] This manipulation of existing laws to enact this Administration's mass deportation agenda is creating chaos in our immigration system while doing nothing to make our communities safer." [United States Senate, Letter to Secretary of Homeland Security Kristi Noem, US Attorney General Pam Bondi, and Acting Director of ICE Todd Lyons, [7/11/25](#)]

- **Hickenlooper And Senators Noted That The Trump Administrations Actions Made Clear They Were Not Targeting The Worst Criminals And Were Redirecting Staff Away From Drug And Human Trafficking Toward Operations Targeting Noncriminal Immigrants Following The Law By Showing Up For Their Court Dates.** "We are extremely concerned by reports of a recent initiative to arrest and detain noncitizens at their immigration court hearings, and in many cases, dismiss their immigration cases without advance notice and while hiding the government's intent to arrest them. Some reports indicated that plain-clothed Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) personnel stationed outside of immigration courtrooms had lists of cases marked for dismissal and even photos of the individuals they intended to arrest. [...] These actions prevent noncitizens from having their fair day in court and raise serious legal and due process concerns. They also make clear that this Administration is not targeting the worst criminals and threats to public safety, instead redirecting staff and resources away from drug trafficking and human trafficking and towards these operations targeting noncriminal immigrants who are following the law and showing up for their day in court. [...] This manipulation of existing laws to enact this Administration's mass deportation agenda is creating chaos in our immigration system while doing nothing to make our communities safer." [United States Senate, Letter to Secretary of Homeland Security Kristi Noem, US Attorney General Pam Bondi, and Acting Director of ICE Todd Lyons, [7/11/25](#)]
- **Hickenlooper And Senators Noted That The Trump Actions Were A "Manipulation Of Existing Laws To Enact This Administration's Mass Deportation Agenda" Which Was Creating Chaos And Doing Nothing To Improve Safety.** "We are extremely concerned by reports of a recent initiative to arrest and detain noncitizens at their immigration court hearings, and in many cases, dismiss their immigration cases without advance notice

and while hiding the government's intent to arrest them. Some reports indicated that plain-clothed Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) personnel stationed outside of immigration courtrooms had lists of cases marked for dismissal and even photos of the individuals they intended to arrest. [...] These actions prevent noncitizens from having their fair day in court and raise serious legal and due process concerns. They also make clear that this Administration is not targeting the worst criminals and threats to public safety, instead redirecting staff and resources away from drug trafficking and human trafficking and towards these operations targeting noncriminal immigrants who are following the law and showing up for their day in court. [...] This manipulation of existing laws to enact this Administration's mass deportation agenda is creating chaos in our immigration system while doing nothing to make our communities safer." [United States Senate, Letter to Secretary of Homeland Security Kristi Noem, US Attorney General Pam Bondi, and Acting Director of ICE Todd Lyons, [7/11/25](#)]

## **HICKENLOOPER HAS CONDUCTED NUMEROUS CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT VISITS OF THE ICE FACILITIES IN COLORADO AN ATTEMPT TO GET ANSWERS TO PROTECT CONSTITUENTS AND DEMANDED THE AGENCY TO STOP DENYING ACCESS**

**Hickenlooper Launched An Inquiry Into ICE Demanding Them To Stop Obstructing Congressional Oversight By Denying Access To ICE Facilities Requiring 72 Hours Notice Instead Of The Standard 24 Hours.** "We write with alarm regarding the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) arbitrary and illegal obstruction of Congressional access to detention facilities. Obstructing Congressional access to immigration detention facilities violates Federal law and undermines Congress's inherent authority to conduct oversight that ensures detained individuals' human rights and protects Americans from agency waste, fraud, and abuse. The Further Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2024 requires DHS and its component and partner agencies to allow members of Congress to inspect detention facilities without notice, and for their staff to enter if at least 24 hours' notice is given. Even so, Members of Congress and their staff have been denied access to multiple detention facilities this year. Members from across the country have reported being denied access for unannounced inspections of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) facilities. [...] DHS's latest changes to ICE policies on Congressional detention facility visits violate Federal law. Despite statutory access requirements, ICE issued a new guidance memo in June, which, while re-stating these statutory requirements, purported to require 72-hour notice for a visit for members and staff alike." [United States Senate, Letter to DHS Secretary Krisi Noem, [12/1/25](#)]

### **August 2025: Hickenlooper Conducted A Congressional Oversight Visit Of The GEO ICE Facility In Aurora.**

"U.S. Senator John Hickenlooper released the following statement after conducting a congressional oversight visit of the GEO ICE facility in Aurora: 'For months, my staff and I have been in touch with many families desperately searching for loved ones arrested by ICE. Yesterday, during a visit to the facility in Aurora, ICE told us we had to submit questions to an email address and informed us they would do their best to respond. That is not good enough. 'I will continue to push for answers to protect our constituents and their families. Every government agency needs to operate with transparency, accountability, and oversight. ICE is no exception.'" [Senator John Hickenlooper, Press Release, [8/22/25](#)]

**Hickenlooper: "Yesterday, During A Visit To The Facility In Aurora, ICE Told Us We Had To Submit Questions To An Email Address And Informed Us They Would Do Their Best To Respond. That Is Not Good Enough."** "U.S. Senator John Hickenlooper released the following statement after conducting a congressional oversight visit of the GEO ICE facility in Aurora: 'For months, my staff and I have been in touch with many families desperately searching for loved ones arrested by ICE. Yesterday, during a visit to the facility in Aurora, ICE told us we had to submit questions to an email address and informed us they would do their best to respond. That is not good enough. 'I will continue to push for answers to protect our constituents and their families. Every government agency needs to operate with transparency, accountability, and oversight. ICE is no exception.'" [Senator John Hickenlooper, Press Release, [8/22/25](#)]

**Hickenlooper: "I Will Continue To Push For Answers To Protect Our Constituents And Their Families. Every Government Agency Needs To Operate With Transparency, Accountability, And Oversight. ICE Is No Exception."** "U.S. Senator John Hickenlooper released the following statement after conducting a congressional oversight visit of the GEO ICE facility in Aurora: 'For months, my staff and I have been in touch with many families desperately searching for loved ones arrested by ICE. Yesterday, during a visit to the facility in Aurora, ICE told us we had to submit questions to an email address and informed us they would do their best to respond. That is not good enough. 'I will continue to push for answers to protect our constituents and their families. Every government agency needs to operate with transparency, accountability, and oversight. ICE is no exception.'" [Senator John Hickenlooper, Press Release, [8/22/25](#)]

**Hickenlooper Confronted ICE Officials About Reports Of Them Pressuring Detainees To Self-Deport And Patterns Of Detainees Being Moved Without Warning.** "During the visit yesterday, Hickenlooper toured the facility and raised concerns with ICE officials regarding delayed communication with congressional offices, irregular process changes, reports of ICE pressuring detainees to voluntarily depart instead of proceeding through a judicial process, and facility conditions. ICE has recently changed its policy and practices regarding legal communication with detainees, making it significantly more difficult for Hickenlooper's office, attorneys, and family members to get in contact with detainees held at the GEO ICE facility in Aurora. Hickenlooper also confronted ICE officials about reports of ICE pressuring detainees to

self-deport and alarming patterns of detainees being moved without warning, disrupting legal processes and cutting off communication with family, attorneys, and Hickenlooper's office." [Senator John Hickenlooper, Press Release, [8/22/25](#)]

**December 2025: Hickenlooper Conducted An Oversight Visit To Of The GEO ICE Facility In Aurora.** "The Aurora facility, privately run by The GEO Group for ICE, is the only ICE detention center in Colorado. Documents obtained by the American Civil Liberties Union of Colorado show that the Trump administration contracted with The GEO Group in December to run another ICE detention center out of a dormant prison in Hudson. Crow's staff and Democratic Sen. John Hickenlooper's staff conducted a separate visit to the Aurora facility in December." [Colorado Newsline, [1/12/26](#)]

**May 2026: Hickenlooper Conducted A Congressional Oversight Visit Of The New Hudson ICE Facility But Was Refused Entry Into The Facility.** "Senator John Hickenlooper strongly criticized Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) after being barred from a new detention facility in Hudson. The Colorado Democrat went to the facility to conduct a formal inspection for oversight and transparency, only to find the doors locked by order of the agency's management. When officials refused to allow the congressional delegation entry, the senator released a video statement on digital platforms to publicly denounce the lack of institutional transparency surrounding the opening of this controversial facility. Hickenlooper reiterated that "the Legislative Branch has a constitutional and historical obligation to rigorously oversee the operations and human conditions within detention centers funded with public resources." [El Comercio, [5/28/26](#)]

**HEADLINE: ICE Denies Hickenlooper Access To Its New Detention Center** [El Comercio, [5/28/26](#)]

## **HICKENLOOPER HAS DENOUNCED THE CRUELTY AND MISTREATMENT OF IMMIGRANTS AT DETENTION CENTERS AND FOUGHT TO GET PEOPLE RELEASED**

**Hickenlooper Criticized The Creation Of The Hudson ICE Detention Facility As ICE Continued To "Terrorize Our Communities, Illegally Detain U.S. Citizens And Skirt Congressional Oversight Of Existing Facilities."** "In a letter Tuesday to ICE Director Todd Lyons and Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem, U.S. Rep. Brittany Pettersen and Sens. Michael Bennet and John Hickenlooper expressed 'profound concern' about a contract reportedly awarded to private-prison company The GEO Group to hold ICE detainees at the Hudson facility. ['As ICE agents continue to terrorize our communities, illegally detain U.S. citizens and skirt congressional oversight of existing facilities, we strongly oppose the expansion of ICE detention beds in Colorado,' wrote Pettersen, Bennet and Hickenlooper." [Colorado Newsline, [2/24/26](#)]

**After A Father And His Two Children Were Wrongfully Detained And Held By ICE, Hickenlooper Worked To Release Them.** "A Durango father and his two children were held in a small, windowless room and only given potato chips and water as they were held in ICE custody in Durango for 36 hours, immigration advocates said Friday. [...] A bipartisan group of congressional lawmakers is working together to free the family from ICE custody. During a meeting in Durango Thursday evening, representatives for Democratic Sens. John Hickenlooper and Michael Bennet and Republican Rep. Jeff Hurd said they are working to get Jaramillo-Solano and his children released from the center in Texas and returned to Durango, where they have lived for 18 months." [The Colorado Sun, [10/31/25](#)]

- **A Durango Father, Fernando Jaramillo-Solano, And His Two Children Were Detained By ICE Which Caused Them To Abandon Their Active Asylum Case From The "Mental, Physical, And Emotional Trauma" They Experienced While In Detention.** "Durango father and his two children who were detained by ICE, after agents mistook the father for someone else, have signed paperwork to voluntarily deport back to Colombia, immigration advocates for the family said Wednesday. Fernando Jaramillo-Solano, 45, has been held in an ICE detention center in Texas with his 15-year-old son and 12-year-old daughter for three weeks, since the three were detained Oct. 27 by masked federal agents while on their way to school. [...] The family has an active asylum case, but according to Jaramillo-Solano's wife and mother of their two children, the 'mental, physical, and emotional trauma' from their detention has 'left them unable to continue fighting.' 'They are exhausted and devastated and their 12-year-old daughter is experiencing acute psychological distress,' she told Compañeros: Four Corners Immigrant Resource Center, a nonprofit who has been working with the family on their asylum case." [The Colorado Sun, [11/19/25](#)]
- **Jaramillo-Solano And His Children Were Held In A Small, Windowless Room Where The Lights Remained On At All Times, And Only Given Potato Chips And Water, Were Not Allowed To Leave Their Cell, And Were Physically Assaulted.** "A Durango father and his two children were held in a small, windowless room and only given potato chips and water as they were held in ICE custody in Durango for 36 hours, immigration advocates said Friday. Fernando Jaramillo-Solano and his children, ages 12 and 15, were then transferred together to a unit in Dilley, Texas, where they are still being held, according to Compañeros: Four Corners Immigrant Resource Center, which connected with the family. [...] Meanwhile, the family said they were not allowed to leave the small cell, where the lights remained on at all times. The only available toilet was in the room, offering no privacy, advocates said. No female agent was available to help the 12-year-old girl, the family told advocates. Jaramillo-Solano likened their detention to torture, and alleged that both he and his son were physically assaulted. 'Every time I asked what would happen to my children, or if they could have something to

eat, they hit us. They told me I did not matter. They told me my children did not matter,' Jaramillo-Solano told the resource center." [The Colorado Sun, [10/31/25](#)]

**Hickenlooper: "The Trump Administration Turned Fernando And His Children's Dream Into An American Tragedy."** "Durango father and his two children who were detained by ICE, after agents mistook the father for someone else, have signed paperwork to voluntarily deport back to Colombia, immigration advocates for the family said Wednesday. Fernando Jaramillo-Solano, 45, has been held in an ICE detention center in Texas with his 15-year-old son and 12-year-old daughter for three weeks, since the three were detained Oct. 27 by masked federal agents while on their way to school. [...] According to ICE officials, federal agents were looking for someone else when they pulled Jaramillo-Solano over, but arrested him and his two children anyway. [...] 'The Trump administration turned Fernando and his children's dream into an American tragedy,' U.S. Sen. John Hickenlooper, a Democrat, said in a statement Wednesday. 'They forced a father and his 15- and 12-year-old kids to make an impossible choice: leave their wife and mother behind and return to a country where they don't feel safe; or remain indefinitely isolated in detention, separated from her.' Hickenlooper said he talked to Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem and demanded the family be released, but they refused. [...] 'Our fight is not over. We will continue to demand transparency from DHS regarding allegations of violence, and about what they did to this family,' Hickenlooper said. 'Two innocent children will carry this trauma for the rest of their lives.'" [The Colorado Sun, [11/19/25](#)]

**Hickenlooper: "[ICE] Forced A Father And His 15- And 12-Year-Old Kids To Make An Impossible Choice: Leave Their Wife And Mother Behind And Return To A Country Where They Don't Feel Safe; Or Remain Indefinitely Isolated In Detention, Separated From Her."** "Durango father and his two children who were detained by ICE, after agents mistook the father for someone else, have signed paperwork to voluntarily deport back to Colombia, immigration advocates for the family said Wednesday. Fernando Jaramillo-Solano, 45, has been held in an ICE detention center in Texas with his 15-year-old son and 12-year-old daughter for three weeks, since the three were detained Oct. 27 by masked federal agents while on their way to school. [...] According to ICE officials, federal agents were looking for someone else when they pulled Jaramillo-Solano over, but arrested him and his two children anyway. [...] 'The Trump administration turned Fernando and his children's dream into an American tragedy,' U.S. Sen. John Hickenlooper, a Democrat, said in a statement Wednesday. 'They forced a father and his 15- and 12-year-old kids to make an impossible choice: leave their wife and mother behind and return to a country where they don't feel safe; or remain indefinitely isolated in detention, separated from her.' Hickenlooper said he talked to Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem and demanded the family be released, but they refused. [...] 'Our fight is not over. We will continue to demand transparency from DHS regarding allegations of violence, and about what they did to this family,' Hickenlooper said. 'Two innocent children will carry this trauma for the rest of their lives.'" [The Colorado Sun, [11/19/25](#)]

**Hickenlooper: "Our Fight Is Not Over. We Will Continue To Demand Transparency From DHS Regarding Allegations Of Violence, And About What They Did To This Family. Two Innocent Children Will Carry This Trauma For The Rest Of Their Lives."** "Durango father and his two children who were detained by ICE, after agents mistook the father for someone else, have signed paperwork to voluntarily deport back to Colombia, immigration advocates for the family said Wednesday. Fernando Jaramillo-Solano, 45, has been held in an ICE detention center in Texas with his 15-year-old son and 12-year-old daughter for three weeks, since the three were detained Oct. 27 by masked federal agents while on their way to school. [...] According to ICE officials, federal agents were looking for someone else when they pulled Jaramillo-Solano over, but arrested him and his two children anyway. [...] 'The Trump administration turned Fernando and his children's dream into an American tragedy,' U.S. Sen. John Hickenlooper, a Democrat, said in a statement Wednesday. 'They forced a father and his 15- and 12-year-old kids to make an impossible choice: leave their wife and mother behind and return to a country where they don't feel safe; or remain indefinitely isolated in detention, separated from her.' Hickenlooper said he talked to Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem and demanded the family be released, but they refused. [...] 'Our fight is not over. We will continue to demand transparency from DHS regarding allegations of violence, and about what they did to this family,' Hickenlooper said. 'Two innocent children will carry this trauma for the rest of their lives.'" [The Colorado Sun, [11/19/25](#)]

**Following The Trump Administration Decision To Stop Reporting Information On Pregnant Women In ICE Custody, Hickenlooper Demanded They Stop Detaining And Mistreating Pregnant Women After Learning Of Several Pregnant Women Who Had Been In Distress With Left Without Medical Care.** "We write to express grave concerns about the prevalence and treatment of pregnant, postpartum, and nursing women in Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detention. A recent Senate Judiciary Committee site visit and media reports point to the alarming detention of a significant number of pregnant women in ICE custody. We urgently request that ICE cease detaining pregnant, postpartum, and nursing women absent exceptional circumstances and that the agency provide information about the number and treatment of pregnant, postpartum, and nursing women in its custody. [...] According to one media investigation, since January 2025, at least four 911 calls have been recorded from ICE detention facilities involving pregnant women in 'distress, bleeding or suffering severe pain'— including one involving a facility staff member. A recent Senate Judiciary Committee staff visit to the South Louisiana ICE Processing Center in Basile, Louisiana revealed that 14 pregnant women—a shockingly large number—were detained at the time of the visit. Women reported receiving little to no medical care and insufficient nutrition; some reported having never been seen by a physician in the facility, despite efforts to get care. The report shares an anecdote of 'a pregnant woman who had a miscarriage while detained and was allegedly still bleeding when she was deported.' Since the start of the Trump administration, accurate information

about the number of pregnant women in ICE custody has been difficult to ascertain. Until this year, ICE provided semiannual reports to Congress on the number and treatment of pregnant, postpartum, and nursing women in immigration detention; however this previously required reporting has now ceased.” [United States Senate, Letter to DHS Secretary Krisi Noem, [9/18/25](#)]

## **HICKENLOOPER DEMANDED ANSWERS AFTER RACIST DEATH CARDS WERE LEFT BY ICE IN THE CARS OF DETAINED IMMIGRANTS AS INTIMIDATION TACTICS**

### **Hickenlooper Demanded Answers After ICE Agents Left Ace Of Spades Death Cards In The Cars Of Detainees, Cards Used With Psychological Warfare And Have Been Used By ICE To Intimidate The Immigrant Community.**

“The Democrats who represent Colorado in Congress are calling for further investigation into the ace of spades playing cards left in the cars of people detained by federal immigration agents in Eagle County. U.S. Sens. John Hickenlooper and Michael Bennet and Reps. Diana DeGette, Joe Neguse, Jason Crow and Brittany Pettersen wrote a letter to U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security Kristi Noem on Monday about the incident. Last month, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement arrested 10 people in Eagle County during traffic stops. When family members went to get the cars left behind, they found in the vehicles the ace of spades cards printed with ‘ICE Denver Field Office’ and the address of the privately-run immigration detention center in Aurora, according to advocacy group Voces Unidas de las Montañas. Known as the ‘death card,’ the ace of spades has been associated with psychological warfare, as U.S. soldiers left the card on the bodies of dead Vietnamese soldiers during the Vietnam War. ‘It is unacceptable and dangerous for federal law enforcement to use this symbol to intimidate Latino communities. This behavior undermines public trust in law enforcement, raises serious civil rights concerns, and falls far short of the professional standards expected of federal agents,’ the letter reads.” [Colorado Newline, [2/3/26](#)]

**Hickenlooper: “These Cards [...] Have A History Of Being Used By White Supremacist Groups To Intimidate People Of Color. [...] This Is Cruelty For The Sake Of Cruelty.”** “This week, families in Eagle County, Colorado experienced another type of cruelty that fits into this administration’s playbook. They found ‘death cards’ [left in] the cars of their family members who were taken away by ICE agents. These cards – I hold one up here – have a history of being used by white supremacist groups to intimidate people of color. ‘Death cards’ is what they call them. These cards found in Colorado had the address and the phone number of the Aurora ICE detention facility printed on them. Aurora is a neighboring city to Denver. Now, imagine – just for a second – that you haven’t heard from your brother, your sister, and when you finally find their empty, abandoned car, it has one of these ‘death cards’ sitting in the driver’s seat. I mean this is cruelty for the sake of cruelty.” [Senator John Hickenlooper, Press Release, [1/29/26](#)]

**HEADLINE: Colorado Democrats Want Answers About ICE ‘Death Cards’ Left In Cars In Eagle County** [Colorado Newline, [2/3/26](#)]

**HEADLINE: Racist Ace Of Spades Cards Left Behind Following ICE Arrests In Eagle County, Colorado Nonprofit Says** [The Colorado Sun, [1/23/26](#)]

## **HICKENLOOPER HAS FOUGHT TO SECURE ACCESS TO COUNSEL FOR IMMIGRANTS AMID TRUMP’S ATTEMPTS TO FIRE THEM**

**March 2025: Hickenlooper Joined His Colleagues In Sending A Letter To Address The Impact Of The Executive Office For Immigration Review’s Decision To Fire Key Immigration Judges Amid A Staggering Backlog Of Immigration Cases.** “We write with great concern regarding the Executive Office for Immigration Review’s (EOIR) decision to fire numerous immigration judges as the immigration courts face a staggering backlog of cases and a likely influx of new cases pursuant to President Trump’s mass-deportation agenda. On February 14, 2025, EOIR abruptly terminated 20 immigration judges via email without prior notice or stated cause, including 13 judges who had not yet been sworn in and seven of EOIR’s approximately 40 assistant chief immigration judges (ACIJs). Additionally, EOIR removed nine Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) members, all of whom were appointed during the Biden Administration. These removals followed the termination of four individuals in senior EOIR leadership positions. The termination of the ACIJs left roughly 25 percent of immigration courts without appropriate or established leadership or additional judges to preside over immigration matters.” [Congress of the United States, Letter to US Attorney General Pam Bondi, [3/28/25](#)]

**February 2025: Hickenlooper Helped Introduce The Access To Counsel Act Of 2025.** [United States Senate, 119<sup>th</sup> Congress 1<sup>st</sup> Session, S. 391, introduced [2/4/25](#)]

**The Access To Counsel Act Would Assist Citizens, Green Card Holders, And Others With Legal Status In Contacting An Attorney If They Were Detained By Customs And Border Protection.** “California Democratic senators Adam Schiff and Alex Padilla introduced the Access to Counsel Act to assist U.S. citizens, green card holders and other individuals with legal status who seek to contact an attorney, relative, or other interested parties if they are detained by Customs and Border Protection for more than an hour at ports of entry, including airports. [...] “President (Donald) Trump’s sweeping executive and other actions on immigration will break up families, adversely impact Dreamers, and in the case of birthright citizenship, are plainly unconstitutional. Senator Padilla’s legislation, which I’m proud to help introduce, will

protect those with legal status who are detained at our ports of entry – and reaffirm their constitutional right to representation,” Schiff said in a news release from his office.” [Times of San Diego, [2/4/25](#)]

**The Access To Counsel Act Was Introduced In Response To The Trump Administration’s 2017 Muslim Ban Where Individuals Were Being Denied Access To Lawyers.** “U.S. Senator John Hickenlooper reintroduced the Access to Counsel Act, which would ensure U.S. citizens, green card holders, and other individuals with legal status can access legal counsel if they are detained by Customs and Border Protection (CBP) for more than an hour. This legislation was originally introduced in response to the Trump administration’s Muslim ban in 2017 that led to individuals being detained at airports and denied contact with legal counsel and family members.” [Senator John Hickenlooper, Press Release, [2/6/25](#)]

**April 2025: Hickenlooper Helped Introduce The Fair Day In Court For Kids Act Of 2025.** [United States Senate, 119<sup>th</sup> Congress 1<sup>st</sup> Session, S.1297, introduced [4/3/25](#)]

**The Fair Day In Court For Kids Act Would Guarantee Legal Representation For Unaccompanied Children And Other Vulnerable Immigrants In Court.** “Wyden and Merkley say the proposed legislation, called the Fair Day in Court for Kids Act, would ensure that migrant children do not have to represent themselves in immigration court. The bill seeks to guarantee legal representation for unaccompanied children and other vulnerable immigrants, a measure advocates say is essential for due process.” [KGW 8, [4/13/25](#)]

## **HICKENLOOPER HELPED INTRODUCE LEGISLATION TO PREVENT IMMIGRATION BANS BASED ON RELIGION OR NATIONALITY**

**February 2025: Hickenlooper Helped Introduce The National Origin-Based Antidiscrimination For Nonimmigrants (NO BAN) Act.** [United States Senate, 119<sup>th</sup> Congress 1<sup>st</sup> Session, S. 398, introduced [2/4/25](#)]

**The NO BAN Act Would Prohibit The President From Implementing Travel Bans On The Basis Of Religion Or Nationality.** “More than a month into US President Donald Trump’s second term, his brutal crackdown on immigration and asylum seekers has already harmed countless people. Law enforcement has carried out mass raids across the United States, rounding up people. Tens of thousands have been deported, and the pathway to asylum has been blocked for tens of thousands more. In the face of this onslaught, people have mobilised en masse to protect vulnerable groups at the local and national levels. One piece of legislation could make a difference in this struggle: the National Origin-Based Antidiscrimination for Nonimmigrants (NO BAN) Act, introduced to the US Congress on February 6 by Representative Judy Chu and Senator Chris Coons. The bill would create much-needed limitations and accountability for any president intent on categorically banning refugees, asylum seekers, or people of specified faiths or nationalities from entering the US.” [Al Jazeera, Sumayyah Waheed, [3/6/25](#)]

**The NO BAN Act Was Introduced After Trump’s Crackdown On Immigration And Asylum Seekers Including Mass Raids And Deportations.** “More than a month into US President Donald Trump’s second term, his brutal crackdown on immigration and asylum seekers has already harmed countless people. Law enforcement has carried out mass raids across the United States, rounding up people. Tens of thousands have been deported, and the pathway to asylum has been blocked for tens of thousands more. In the face of this onslaught, people have mobilised en masse to protect vulnerable groups at the local and national levels. One piece of legislation could make a difference in this struggle: the National Origin-Based Antidiscrimination for Nonimmigrants (NO BAN) Act, introduced to the US Congress on February 6 by Representative Judy Chu and Senator Chris Coons. The bill would create much-needed limitations and accountability for any president intent on categorically banning refugees, asylum seekers, or people of specified faiths or nationalities from entering the US.” [Al Jazeera, Sumayyah Waheed, [3/6/25](#)]

**Hickenlooper Said The NO BAN Act Would Protect Against Discriminatory Immigration Bans Like Trump’s First Term Muslim Ban.** “Today, U.S. Senators John Hickenlooper and Michael Bennet joined their Senate colleagues to reintroduce the National Origin-Based Antidiscrimination for Nonimmigrants (NO BAN) Act, which protects against discriminatory immigration bans like those President Trump implemented during his first term. Specifically, the NO BAN Act would prohibit religious discrimination in our immigration laws and ensure that any use of the President’s authority to suspend entry into the country would be based on specific and credible facts, and be narrowly tailored to address a compelling government interest. ‘During his first term, Trump’s Muslim ban stripped people of their rights and separated entire families,’ said Hickenlooper. ‘Americans deserve real solutions on immigration, not prejudicial bans that cause chaos and suffering.’” [Senator John Hickenlooper, Press Release, [2/7/25](#)]

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