

Dear Members of Congress,

We, the undersigned 25 organizations, guided by our Jewish values and history, urge you to oppose the No Bailout for Sanctuary Cities Act (H.R.32). This dangerous bill would allow the current administration to block funding for housing, food assistance, education, transportation, public health, and other key federal resources to states and other localities who refuse to cooperate with or facilitate federal mass deportation efforts.

This bill not only serves to further alienate and scapegoat undocumented immigrants, but also threatens critical funding and resources for all U.S. residents, citizens and non-citizens. While the bill claims to block funding “intended to benefit” those without legal status in the U.S., the bill would in practice impact all individuals residing in a given area by threatening the “provision of food, shelter, healthcare services, legal services, and transportation.” Given that undocumented immigrants do not qualify for the majority of federal-level public benefits programs, this legislation would target services provided to all residents indiscriminately.

We cannot allow this attack on migrants and sanctuary localities to be weaponized as justification to deprive all residents of basic government services essential for their well-being. Jewish organizations have played a key role in the sanctuary movement for decades, driven by the knowledge that our sacred text instructs us to welcome the sojourner or *ger* (stranger in Hebrew). We read in Genesis that not only did Abraham and Sarah allow three guests to enter their tent, but also ran towards them and prepared them a meal, modeling the spirit with which we should embrace those seeking refuge.

We are also equally concerned about the implications of blocking critical services for the most vulnerable members of our society. Deuteronomy 15:7-8 instructs us that “if, however, there is a needy person among you, one of your kin in any of your settlements in the land that your God is giving you, do not harden your heart and shut your hand against your needy kin. Rather, you must open your hand and lend whatever is sufficient to meet the need.” We have a moral obligation to protect and assist those in our community that are in need, and we are prohibited from ignoring the dangerous implications of this bill.

This potential loss of billions of dollars in services and resources would be catastrophic to the ability of everyday people to fulfill their basic needs, and as Jewish organizations we are compelled to speak out. We urge you to vote against this attempt to weaponize critical funding in the pursuit of further targeting undocumented immigrants.

Sincerely,

Arizona Jews for Justice
Bend the Arc: Jewish Action
Carolina Jews for Justice - Durham
Central Conference of American Rabbis
Chicago Jewish Labor Committee

HIAS

Jewish Alliance for Law and Social Action

Jewish Coalition for Immigrant Justice NW

Jewish Community Action

Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Washington

Jewish Council for Public Affairs

Jewish Council on Urban Affairs

Jewish Labor Committee

Kirva

Men of Reform Judaism

National Council of Jewish Women

New England Jewish Labor Committee

New Jersey Jewish Labor Committee

Philadelphia Jewish Labor Committee

T'ruah: The Rabbinic Call for Human Rights

The Shalom Center

Union for Reform Judaism

United Hebrew Trades - New York Jewish Labor Committee

Uri L'Tzedek

Women of Reform Judaism