

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4651

To require immigration enforcement staff to wear body cameras, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 23, 2025

Mr. ESPAILLAT introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To require immigration enforcement staff to wear body cameras, and for other purposes.

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 “Immigration Enforce-
5 ment Staff Body Camera Accountability Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. USE OF BODY CAMERAS BY IMMIGRATION EN-**
7 **FORCEMENT STAFF.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than the date that the
9 rule under subsection (e) is finalized, the Director of U.S.

1 Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and the
2 Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection
3 (CBP) shall ensure that all immigration enforcement staff
4 wear body cameras when such agents and officers are en-
5 gaged in official operations.

6 (b) IMPLEMENTATION.—To carry out this section,
7 the Director of ICE and the Commissioner of CBP shall
8 establish—

9 (1) policies, procedures, and best practices for
10 the use of body cameras by all immigration enforce-
11 ment staff, including training relating to the use of
12 such cameras;

13 (2) policies, procedures, and best practices for
14 the use of artificial intelligence and facial recogni-
15 tion technology to record or review body camera
16 footage by immigration enforcement staff, including
17 policies that acknowledge the limitations and inac-
18 curacies of artificial intelligence and facial recogni-
19 tion technology; and

20 (3) policies and procedures for carrying out ad-
21 verse actions under subsection (f).

22 (c) ALWAYS-ON.—Body cameras worn by immigra-
23 tion enforcement staff shall be turned on at the beginning
24 of the shift of such staff and shall remain on for the dura-
25 tion of such shifts.

1 (d) AVAILABILITY OF BODY CAMERA FOOTAGE.—
2 Footage collected by such a body camera shall be made
3 available to each party to any administrative proceeding,
4 civil action, or criminal prosecution to which such footage
5 pertains in accordance with such requirements as the Sec-
6 retary of Homeland Security shall by rule require under
7 subsection (e). If such footage is not made available, such
8 a party may notify the Director of ICE or the Commis-
9 sioner of CBP, as the case may be, in writing for purposes
10 of instigating an adverse action described in subsection
11 (f).

12 (e) RULEMAKING.—Not later than 60 days after the
13 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland
14 Security shall commence a rulemaking regarding the use
15 of body cameras and the provision of footage in accord-
16 ance with subsection (d) that is consistent with the “Civil
17 Rights Principles for Body Worn Cameras” of the Leader-
18 ship Conference on Civil and Human Rights, May 2015,
19 and “Three Key Reforms for Facial Recognition and Body
20 Cameras” of the Project on Government Oversight, April
21 2018. The proposed rule shall include a comparison with
22 the American Civil Liberties Union’s July 2021 “Model
23 Act for Regulating the Use of Wearable Body Cameras
24 by Law Enforcement” and “An Act Relative to Body-
25 Worn Cameras for Law Enforcement Officers” (2016

1 N.H. Legis. Serv. 322 (codified at N.H. REV. STAT.
2 ANN. § 105–D (2016))).

3 (f) ADVERSE ACTIONS FOR ABSENCE OF BODY CAM-
4 ERA FOOTAGE.—Any immigration enforcement staff
5 member whose body camera does not record footage be-
6 cause of a violation of subsection (c) shall be subject to
7 furlough, reduction in pay or grade, or a suspension of
8 up to 30 days under subchapter II of chapter 75 of title
9 5, United States Code, as the Director of ICE or the Com-
10 missioner of CBP (as the case may be) determines appro-
11 priate. If a body camera does not record at a time when
12 the camera is required to be active, the Secretary of
13 Homeland Security may not determine that the camera
14 suffered a malfunction unless the member submits evi-
15 dence sufficient to establish that a malfunction occurred.

16 (g) ANNUAL ASSESSMENTS.—The Inspector General
17 of the Department of Homeland Security shall conduct an
18 annual privacy impact assessment of how body camera
19 footage is collected, maintained, stored, and disseminated.

20 (h) PROHIBITION ON NEW FUNDING.—No additional
21 funding is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this
22 section. This section shall be carried out using amounts
23 otherwise made available for such purposes.

24 (i) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “immigra-
25 tion enforcement staff” means the following:

1 (1) All agents and officers of U.S. Customs and
2 Border Protection.

3 (2) All agents and officers of U.S. Immigration
4 and Customs Enforcement.

5 (3) All staff at any immigration detention facil-
6 ity who interact with detainees.

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