

119TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 3782

To provide a civil remedy for individuals harmed by sanctuary jurisdiction policies, to create or enhance penalties for murder and assault committed against law enforcement officers, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 5, 2026

Mr. TILLIS introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

To provide a civil remedy for individuals harmed by sanctuary jurisdiction policies, to create or enhance penalties for murder and assault committed against law enforcement officers, 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 “Justice for Victims  
5       of Sanctuary Cities and Fallen Law Enforcement Act of  
6       2026”.

7       **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

8       In this Act:

1           (1) ALIEN.—The term “alien” has the meaning  
2           given such term in section 101(a)(3) of the Immi-  
3           gration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(3)).

4           (2) SANCTUARY JURISDICTION.—

5           (A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in  
6           subparagraph (B), the term “sanctuary juris-  
7           diction” means any State or political subdivi-  
8           sion of a State that has in effect a statute, ordi-  
9           nance, policy, or practice that prohibits or re-  
10          stricts any government entity or official from—

11               (i) sending, receiving, maintaining, or  
12               exchanging with any Federal, State, or  
13               local government entity information re-  
14               garding the citizenship or immigration sta-  
15               tus of any alien; or

16               (ii) complying with a request lawfully  
17               made by the Department of Homeland Se-  
18               curity under section 236 or 287 of the Im-  
19               migration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.  
20               1226 and 1357) to comply with a detainer  
21               for, or notify about the release of, an alien.

22          (B) EXCEPTION.—A State or political sub-  
23          division of a State shall not be deemed a sanc-  
24          tuary jurisdiction based solely on having a pol-  
25          icy whereby its officials will not share informa-

tion regarding, or comply with a request made by the Department of Homeland Security under section 236 or 287 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1226 and 1357) to comply with a detainer regarding, an alien who comes forward as a victim or a witness to a criminal offense.

(3) SANCTUARY POLICY.—The term “sanctuary policy” means a statute, ordinance, policy, or practice referred to in paragraph (2)(A).

(4) SANCTUARY-RELATED CIVIL ACTION.—The term “sanctuary-related civil action” means a civil action brought against a sanctuary jurisdiction by an individual (or the estate, survivors, or heirs of such individual) who—

(A) is injured or harmed by an alien who benefitted from a sanctuary policy of such sanctuary jurisdiction; and

(B) would not have been so injured or harmed if such alien had not been so benefitted.

**SEC. 3. CIVIL ACTION FOR HARM BY AN ALIEN THAT BENEFITTED FROM A SANCTUARY POLICY.**

(a) PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION.—

(1) CAUSE OF ACTION.—Any individual, or a spouse, parent, or child of such individual (if the in-

1       dividual is deceased or permanently incapacitated),  
2       who is the victim of a murder, rape, or any felony  
3       (as defined by the State in which the crime oc-  
4       curred) for which an alien has been arrested, con-  
5       victed, or sentenced to a term of imprisonment of at  
6       least 1 year, may bring an action for compensatory  
7       damages against a State or a political subdivision of  
8       a State, in the appropriate Federal or State court,  
9       if such State or political subdivision failed—

10               (A) to comply with a request with respect  
11               to an alien that was lawfully made by the De-  
12               partment of Homeland Security pursuant to  
13               section 236 or 287 of the Immigration and Na-  
14               tionality Act (8 U.S.C. 1226 and 1357); and

15               (B)(i) to comply with a detainer for such  
16               alien; or

17               (ii) to notify the Department about the re-  
18               lease of such alien.

19       (2) STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS.—An action de-  
20       scribed in paragraph (1) may not be brought later  
21       than 10 years after the later of—

22               (A) the occurrence of the crime referred to  
23               in paragraph (1); or

24               (B) the death of a person that resulted  
25               from such crime.

1           (3) ATTORNEY’S FEE AND OTHER COSTS.—In  
 2           any action or proceeding under paragraph (1), the  
 3           court shall allow a prevailing plaintiff to recover a  
 4           reasonable attorney’s fee as part of the costs of the  
 5           litigation, which shall include any applicable expert  
 6           fees.

7           (b) WAIVER OF IMMUNITY.—

8           (1) IN GENERAL.—Any State or political sub-  
 9           division of a State that accepts a grant described in  
 10          paragraph (2) from the Federal Government shall  
 11          agree, as a condition of receiving such grant, to  
 12          waive any immunity of such State or political sub-  
 13          division relating to a sanctuary-related civil action.

14          (2) GRANTS DESCRIBED.—The grants described  
 15          in this paragraph are—

16                (A) a grant for public works and economic  
 17                development under section 201(a) of the Public  
 18                Works and Economic Development Act of 1965  
 19                (42 U.S.C. 3141(a));

20                (B) a grant for planning and administra-  
 21                tive expenses under section 203(a) of such Act  
 22                (42 U.S.C. 3143(a));

23                (C) a supplemental grant under section  
 24                205(b) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 3145(b));

1 (D) a grant for training, research, and  
 2 technical assistance under section 207(a) of  
 3 such Act (42 U.S.C. 3147(a)); and

4 (E) except as provided in paragraph (3), a  
 5 community development block grant made pur-  
 6 suant to title I of the Housing and Community  
 7 Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5301 et  
 8 seq.).

9 (3) EXCEPTION.—Grants described in para-  
 10 graph (2)(E) shall not include any disaster relief  
 11 grants to address the damage in an area for which  
 12 the President has declared a disaster under title IV  
 13 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emer-  
 14 gency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170 et seq.).

15 **SEC. 4. ENSURING COOPERATION BETWEEN FEDERAL AND**  
 16 **LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS TO**  
 17 **SAFEGUARD OUR COMMUNITIES.**

18 (a) AUTHORITY TO COOPERATE WITH FEDERAL OF-  
 19 FICIALS.—A State, a political subdivision of a State, or  
 20 an officer, employee, or agent of such State or political  
 21 subdivision that complies with a detainer issued by the De-  
 22 partment of Homeland Security pursuant to section 236  
 23 or 287 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.  
 24 1226 and 1357)—

1           (1) shall be deemed to be acting as an agent of  
2           the Department of Homeland Security; and

3           (2) shall comply with section 287(d) of the Im-  
4           migration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1357(d))  
5           and section 287.5(d) of title 8, Code of Federal Reg-  
6           ulations.

7           (b) LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.—In any legal proceeding  
8           brought against a State, a political subdivision of State,  
9           or an officer, employee, or agent of such State or political  
10          subdivision challenging the legality of the seizure or deten-  
11          tion of an individual pursuant to a detainer issued by the  
12          Department of Homeland Security under section 236 or  
13          287 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.  
14          1226 and 1357)—

15               (1) the State or political subdivision of a State  
16               shall not be liable for any action taken in accordance  
17               with the detainer; and

18               (2) if the actions of the officer, employee, or  
19               agent of the State or political subdivision were taken  
20               in accordance with the detainer—

21                       (A) the officer, employee, or agent shall be  
22                       deemed—

23                               (i) to be an employee of the Federal  
24                               Government and an investigative or law  
25                               enforcement officer; and

1 (ii) to have been acting within the  
 2 scope of his or her employment under sec-  
 3 tion 1346(b) of title 28, United States  
 4 Code, and chapter 171 of such title;

5 (B) section 1346(b) of title 28, United  
 6 States Code, shall provide the exclusive remedy  
 7 for the plaintiff; and

8 (C) the United States shall be substituted  
 9 as the defendant in such proceeding.

10 (c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-  
 11 tion may be construed to provide immunity to any person  
 12 who knowingly violates the civil or constitutional rights of  
 13 an individual.

14 **SEC. 5. JUSTICE FOR FALLEN LAW ENFORCEMENT.**

15 (a) AMENDMENTS.—Part I of title 18, United States  
 16 Code, is amended—

17 (1) in section 111, by adding at the end the fol-  
 18 lowing:

19 “(d) COMMISSION AGAINST A LAW ENFORCEMENT  
 20 OFFICER.—Whoever commits any act described in sub-  
 21 section (a)(1) against a Federal law enforcement officer,  
 22 or against a State or local law enforcement officer if the  
 23 perpetrator plans or facilitates the act with an instrument  
 24 of interstate commerce or commits the act with a weapon  
 25 that has traveled in interstate commerce, resulting in seri-

ous injury to the law enforcement officer, shall be imprisoned not less than 20 years.”; and

(2) in chapter 51—

(A) by inserting after section 1122 the following:

**“§ 1123. Protection of law enforcement officers**

“Whoever commits the murder of a Federal law enforcement officer, or a State or local law enforcement officer if the perpetrator plans or facilitates the murder with an instrument of interstate commerce or commits the murder with a weapon that has traveled in interstate commerce, shall be sentenced as provided under section 1111 for murder in the first degree.”; and

(B) in the table of sections, by adding at the end the following:

“1123. Protection of law enforcement officers.”.

(b) **REPORT REQUIRED.**—Not later than 3 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall submit to the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives a report on prosecutions conducted as the result of the amendments made by this section.

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