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Rep. Cruz Responds to Proposed Immigration Legislation

MADISON – Today, Legislative Republicans unveiled new immigration legislation that aims to divert already scarce law enforcement resources to enforce former President Trump’s extreme immigration policies.

In response, Representative Angelina Cruz stated, “For years, we have asked local communities and law enforcement to do more with fewer resources. It is deeply troubling that some would now threaten to cut funding from vital services for a political stunt.”

The proposed legislation would penalize law enforcement agencies that do not comply, standing in stark contrast to legislation introduced just last week by Representatives Ortiz-Velez and Hong, alongside Senators Carpenter and Drake. Rep. Cruz has signed on as a co-sponsor of the Democratic bill, which seeks to protect Wisconsin communities in light of recent federal actions.

The Democratic legislation safeguards the constitutional rights of individuals, prohibiting state agencies from using state funds to detain individuals based solely on their immigration status.

Rep. Cruz shared her personal connection to the issue, saying, “My grandparents came to Racine as migrant farm workers—just as so many hardworking individuals are being demonized today, despite the crucial role they play in keeping our economy running.”

She continued, “Instead of targeting people simply because they weren’t born within our borders, we should be offering a path to citizenship, improving workplace conditions, ensuring fair wages, and providing access to education and the right to organize. We must treat all people with dignity and respect.”

Rep. Cruz concluded, “You can’t claim to love this country—a nation built by immigrants—while simultaneously attacking those same immigrants.”

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Representative Angelina Cruz was elected in the 2024 general election. She serves the 62nd Assembly District, which includes parts of Racine, Wind Point, North Bay, Caledonia, and Mount Pleasant.