September 18, 2025

Speaker Johnson

House Minority Leader Jeffries

Senate Majority Leader Thune

Senate Minority Leader Schumer

Re: Prohibiting Unlawful Military Deployments

Dear Speaker Johnson, House Minority Leader Jeffries, Senate Majority Leader Thune, and Senate Minority Leader Schumer:

On behalf of UnidosUS and the 47 undersigned organizations, we write to express grave concern about the dangerous conditions developing in communities all across the nation. The recent Supreme Court ruling in *Noem v. Vasquez Perdomo* enabling racial profiling along with recent unlawful military deployments in U.S. cities for immigration enforcement and crime control stand to exacerbate civil rights abuses against U.S. citizens and immigrants. These actions perpetuate executive branch overreach, undermine constitutional safeguards and civil rights, and set a dangerous precedent for all American communities.

Federal law is clear: The military cannot serve as civilian police except as authorized by Congress. Yet, recent deployments of the National Guard and other military resources in Washington, DC, and Los Angeles blur this line. In *Newsom v. Trump*, a federal court concluded the military and the National Guard "willfully" and systematically violated the Posse Comitatus Act when troops engaged in crowd control, traffic blockades, and other routine law enforcement.

The military's role is to defend our nation — not to patrol our neighborhoods. Normalizing the use of troops for immigration enforcement or routine law enforcement threatens democratic governance and the principle of local self-determination.

These abuses are not only immigration or crime issues — they are civil rights issues that threaten all communities. The misuse of data, racial profiling, and unlawful military deployments mirror the aggressive and disparate policing and surveillance that Black, Latino, and Asian American and Pacific Islander communities have long faced. The abuses weaken communities' trust in government, destabilize families and neighborhoods, and undermine constitutional protections. That is why our organizations are standing together

to oppose such practices. Together, we are committed to ensuring that no community is targeted or treated as expendable, and that the rights of all Americans are protected.

Congress has both constitutional authority and a responsibility to hold the executive branch accountable. Continued federal funding of such overreach has dire consequences for communities struck by fear, businesses and local entrepreneurs struggling to make ends meet, and families going about their daily lives. In the wake of the Supreme Court's unconscionable order in *Noem v. Perdomo*, the Court failed to apply essential limits on unlawful profiling. Allowing officials to apprehend individuals based on factors such as speaking a language other than English, working a lower-wage job, or belonging to a particular race or ethnicity, is putting our communities — and all Americans — at greater risk.

We respectfully request that you provide, in writing, by Friday, September 26, the steps Congress will take to use its authority to:

- Prevent the misuse of military resources for immigration enforcement or routine law enforcement in U.S. cities, **including the National Guard in Title 10 or Title 32 status.**
- Hold federal officials accountable for **violating the civil rights** of citizens and immigrants.
- Ensure that appropriated funds are not used to support unlawful military deployments, including **activities considered prohibited under 18 USC 1385** (crowd control, search and seizure, evidence investigation or collection, security functions, checkpoints, use of force or violence, arrest, apprehension, interrogation, or canvassing or questioning potential witnesses).

Congress must act swiftly to ensure taxpayer dollars are not used for these unlawful activities. Your written response will provide much-needed clarity and accountability at a critical moment when families and communities across the nation are raising urgent concerns about civil rights, due process, and executive overreach.

We stand ready to work with you to safeguard our communities and our democratic rights.

Sincerely,

UnidosUS
ACCESS REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE
America's Voice
American Civil Liberties Union

Aquí: The Accountability Movement
Austin Region Justice for Our Neighbors
California WIC Association
Casa de la Cultura
Center for Human Rights and Constitutional Law
Center for Law and Social Policy
Children's Defense Fund-Texas
Chinese for Affirmative Action
Coalition for Asian American Children and Families
Encuentro
Family Focus
Firelands Workers United / Trabajadores Unidos
Frontera Federation
Grantmakers Concerned with Immigrants and Refugees
Hispanic Federation
Immigrant Defenders Law Center (ImmDef)
Labor Council for Latin American Advancement (LCLAA)
Latino Victory Project
The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights
League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC)
Mental Health Partnership
Mi Familia Vota
Muslim Advocates
NAACP
NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc.
National Action Network
National Coalition for the Homeless
National Coalition on Black Civic Participation
The National Council of Asian Pacific Americans (NCAPA)
National Education Association
National Latina Institute for Reproductive Justice
National Urban League
National Women's Law Center
NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice
New Jersey Alliance for Immigrant Justice
Oasis Legal Services
Prevention Institute
Project Hajra
scaleLIT
Serving at-risk families everywhere, Inc.
Stop AAPI Hate
Voto Latino
William E. Morris Institute for Justice
Wind of the Spirit Immigrant Resource Center