October 27, 2025

The Honorable Debbie Wasserman Schultz Co-Chair Democratic Steering and Policy Committee	The Honorable Robin Kelly Co-Chair Democratic Steering and Policy Committee	The Honorable Nanette Barragán Co-Chair Democratic Steering and Policy Committee

Dear Representatives Schultz, Kelly, and Barragán:

On behalf of UnidosUS and the 30 undersigned civil rights, faith-based, labor, and advocacy organizations, we write to urge the House Democratic Steering and Policy Committee to convene a hearing to investigate and expose the Trump administration's weaponization of the military and immigration enforcement apparatus against American communities.

In recent months, the administration has been escalating its use of military resources, federal agents, and immigration enforcement in ways that endanger the constitutional rights and safety of both citizens and immigrants. These actions include the deployment of National Guard troops and tactical federal agents in U.S. cities, as well as raids that have endangered children; pregnant, postpartum, and nursing people; and local officials. The administration has also targeted immigrant families and people of color for warrantless arrests on the streets and at or near places of worship, schools, and hospitals – relying on a legal interpretation that appears to permit racial profiling contrary to our Constitution. Such policies have already led to the wrongful arrests of U.S. citizens, including veterans who have served our nation.

What were once extraordinary measures have become routine tools of intimidation and show that cruelty is now policy, leading UnidosUS and our civil rights, civil liberties, and advocacy partners to urge Congress to prohibit unlawful military deployments and rein in enforcement abuses.

In doing so, the Administration has disempowered local law enforcement – who are the real experts in community safety and crime prevention – while misusing National Guard troops for political spectacle rather than public safety. These deployments are designed not to preserve order but to instead provoke confrontation and escalate tensions, creating conditions that the President could exploit to justify an unprecedented expansion of executive power.

All of these abuses undermine the rule of law and long-standing legal safeguards, including the Posse Comitatus Act, which prohibits the use of armed forces for domestic law enforcement. When the executive branch disregards these limits, it endangers all

Americans by eroding the separation of powers and normalizing the use of force to silence dissent and instill fear.

The presence of troops in civilian spaces also raises grave concerns about the fairness and security of elections. Even the perception of military personnel near polling places could intimidate voters, disrupt election administration, and corrode public trust in our democratic process.

Beyond the abuse of force, the administration is violating fundamental due process protections by allowing squalid detention conditions and restricting access by detainees to counsel, clergy, family members, and appropriate health care services. It is also diverting critical resources from the FBI, IRS, and non-immigration Department of Homeland Security agencies, undermining national security and public safety. These actions compound harm to communities while eroding the integrity of law enforcement institutions that Americans depend on to stay safe.

A hearing before the House Democratic Steering and Policy Committee would serve a vital function: to document the human impact of these policies, elevate the voices of affected communities, and chart a path for Congress to reassert its constitutional authority over the use of military and enforcement powers. Such a forum would also allow Members to explore legislative remedies to restore transparency and accountability and hear from impacted members of the public and state and local law enforcement officials. This call for action aligns with the recent request from the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, which likewise urged the Committee to convene a hearing examining the Trump administration's immigration agenda and its devastating effects on families and communities across the country.

The Committee has historically led the House in spotlighting emerging threats to our democracy. At this pivotal moment, we urge you to continue that tradition by holding a hearing on the administration's escalating attacks on constitutional norms and the misuse of federal power against the people it is sworn to serve.

Thank you for your leadership and commitment to defending the rule of law and the rights of all Americans.

Sincerely,

UnidosUS
ACCESS REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE
America's Voice
Aquí: The Accountability Movement
Center for Human Rights and Constitutional Law
Center for Law and Social Policy

Children's Defense Fund-Texas
Chinese for Affirmative Action
Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, U.S. Provinces
Franciscan Action Network
Friends Committee on National Legislation
Hispanic Federation
Immigrant Defenders Law Center (ImmDef)
Latino Victory Project
League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC)
Mi Familia Vota
Muslim Advocates
NAACP
National Action Network
National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd
National Council of Asian Pacific Americans (NCAPA)
National Education Association (NEA)
National Latina Institute for Reproductive Justice
National Urban League
National Women's Law Center
NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice
Oasis Legal Services
Serving At-risk Families Everywhere
Stop AAPI Hate
Unitarian Universalists for Social Justice
Voto Latino