

[DISCUSSION DRAFT]

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To amend section 287 of the Immigration and Nationality Act to require all immigration enforcement officers to wear and operate a body camera during public-facing immigration enforcement actions and to promote transparency and accountability.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. NORCROSS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend section 287 of the Immigration and Nationality Act to require all immigration enforcement officers to wear and operate a body camera during public-facing immigration enforcement actions and to promote transparency and accountability.

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 “Trust Through Trans-
5 parency Act of 2025”.

1 **SEC. 2. IN GENERAL.**

2 Section 287 of the Immigration and Nationality Act
3 (8 U.S.C. 1357) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
4 lowing:

5 “(i) BODY CAMERA USAGE.—

6 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than **_____**,
7 each covered immigration agent shall wear and oper-
8 ate a body camera during any public immigration
9 enforcement function.

10 “(2) USE OF FOOTAGE.—Except as provided in
11 paragraph (3), video footage from such a body cam-
12 era shall be retained by Immigration and Customs
13 Enforcement for six months from the date the foot-
14 age was recorded. The video footage shall thereafter
15 be permanently deleted unless the footage cap-
16 tures—

17 “(A) images involving any use of force;

18 “(B) events preceding and including an ar-
19 rest for a crime or attempted crime; or

20 “(C) an encounter about which a complaint
21 has been registered by a subject of the video
22 footage.

23 “(3) EXTENDED RETENTION PERIOD.—Video
24 footage from such a body camera shall be retained
25 for not less than three years if a longer retention pe-
26 riod is voluntarily requested by—

1 “(A) the covered immigration officer whose
2 body worn camera recorded the video footage, if
3 that officer reasonably asserts the video footage
4 has evidentiary or exculpatory value;

5 “(B) a covered immigration officer who is
6 a subject of the video footage, if that officer
7 reasonably asserts the video footage has evi-
8 dentiary or exculpatory value;

9 “(C) any superior officer of an officer
10 whose body worn camera recorded the video
11 footage or who is a subject of the video footage,
12 if that superior officer reasonably asserts the
13 video footage has evidentiary or exculpatory
14 value;

15 “(D) a covered immigration officer, if the
16 video footage is being retained solely and exclu-
17 sively for training purposes;

18 “(E) a member of the public who is a sub-
19 ject of the video footage;

20 “(F) a parent or legal guardian of a minor
21 who is a subject of the video footage; or

22 “(G) a deceased subject’s next of kin or le-
23 gally authorized designee

24 “(4) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

1 “(A) The term ‘covered immigration offi-
2 cer’ means any individual who is—

3 “(i) authorized to perform immigra-
4 tion enforcement functions; and

5 “(ii)(I) an officer or employee of U.S.
6 Customs and Border Protection;

7 “(II) an officer or employee of U.S.
8 Immigration and Customs Enforcement; or

9 “(III) an individual authorized, depu-
10 tized, or designated under Federal law,
11 regulation, or agreement to perform immi-
12 gration enforcement functions, including
13 pursuant to subsection (g) or any other
14 delegation or agreement with the Depart-
15 ment of Homeland Security.

16 “(B) The term ‘body worn camera’ means
17 a mobile audio and video recording system worn
18 by a law enforcement officer, but shall not in-
19 clude a recording device worn by a law enforce-
20 ment officer while engaging in an undercover
21 assignment.

22 “(C) The term ‘public immigration en-
23 forcement function’—

24 “(i) means any activity that involves
25 the direct exercise of Federal immigration

1 authority through public-facing actions, in-
2 cluding a patrol, a stop, an arrest, a
3 search, an interview to determine immigra-
4 tion status, a raid, a check point inspec-
5 tion, or the service of a judicial or adminis-
6 trative warrant; and

7 “(ii) does not include covert, non-pub-
8 lic operations or non-enforcement activi-
9 ties.”.

10 **SEC. 3. COMPLIANCE AND REPORTING.**

11 (a) INTERNAL ACCOUNTABILITY.—The Secretary of
12 Homeland Security shall ensure that any covered immi-
13 gration officer who fails to comply with the requirements
14 under section 287(i) of the Immigration and Nationality
15 Act shall receive appropriate administrative discipline, in-
16 cluding written reprimand, suspension, or other personnel
17 actions, consistent with agency policy and any applicable
18 collective bargaining agreement.

19 (b) ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than
20 one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and
21 annually thereafter, the Secretary of Homeland Security
22 shall submit a report to the Office for Civil Rights and
23 Civil Liberties of the Department of Homeland Security,
24 the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate, the Com-
25 mittee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

1 of the Senate, the Committee on the Judiciary of the
2 House of Representatives, and the Committee on Home-
3 land Security of the House of Representatives that in-
4 cludes—

5 (1) the total number of public immigration en-
6 forcement functions conducted during the reporting
7 period;

8 (2) the number of documented instances of non-
9 compliance with section 287(i) of the Immigration
10 and Nationality Act; and

11 (3) a summary of disciplinary or remedial ac-
12 tions taken against those responsible for such in-
13 stances of noncompliance.

14 (c) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The annual report shall
15 be made available to the public on the website of the De-
16 partment of Homeland Security within 30 days of submis-
17 sion to Congress. The Inspector General may redact infor-
18 mation from the public version of the report where nec-
19 essary to protect sensitive law enforcement operations, on-
20 going investigations, or individual privacy, provided that
21 the justification for such redactions is included.

22 (d) INDEPENDENT REVIEW PANEL.—The Secretary
23 of Homeland Security shall establish an independent advi-
24 sory panel composed of individuals with expertise in civil
25 rights, privacy, technology, and law enforcement oversight

1 to provide non-binding recommendations on policies gov-
2 erning the use and management of body cameras and re-
3 corded footage.