

Trust Through Transparency Act

Background

Civil immigration enforcement operations have increasingly involved Department of Homeland Security (DHS) officers interacting with the public while wearing unmarked tactical gear, concealing clothing, and face coverings. These practices often obscure both agency affiliation and individual identity. Without visible badges, name tags, or insignia, members of the public are frequently unable to verify whether they are interacting with legitimate government officials.

The Trust Through Transparency Act

- **Require all immigration enforcement officers to wear and operate body cameras during public-facing immigration enforcement actions.**
 - Footage must be kept for 6 months, then deleted unless it involves: use of force, an arrest/crime, or a subject complaint.
 - Footage can be retained for at least 3 years if requested by the officer, their superior, the subject (or their guardian/next of kin), or for training purposes.
 - Officers who fail to comply face administrative discipline.
- **Requires DHS to submit an annual report to Congress detailing:**
 - Number of immigration enforcement actions;
 - Instances of noncompliance;
 - Resulting disciplinary actions.
- **Requires such reports to be publicly available on DHS's website** (with redactions allowed to protect sensitive operations/privacy).
- **Establishes an independent advisory panel of experts** (civil rights, privacy, tech, law enforcement oversight) to give recommendations on body camera use and management.

House Cosponsors

Beatty (D-OH); Moulton (D-MA); Norton (D-DC); Elfreth (D-MD); Foushee (D-NC); Lieu (D-CA); Davis (D-IL); Casten (D-IL); Dean (D-PA); Pingree (D-ME); Pocan (D-WI)