

First Regular Session
Seventy-fifth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

ENGROSSED

LLS NO. R25-0874.01 Owen Hatch x2698

SR25-005

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Gonzales J. and Jodeh, Amabile, Ball, Bridges, Coleman, Cutter, Danielson, Daugherty, Exum, Hinrichsen, Kipp, Kolker, Marchman, Michaelson Jenet, Mullica, Roberts, Rodriguez, Snyder, Sullivan, Weissman, Winter F.

Senate Committees

SENATE RESOLUTION 25-005

101 CONCERNING THE UNITED STATES FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S UNJUST
102 USE OF THE ALIEN ENEMIES ACT TO INDISCRIMINATELY TARGET
103 IMMIGRANTS.

1 WHEREAS, In his inaugural address on January 20, 2025,
2 President Donald J. Trump announced his plan to invoke the Alien
3 Enemies Act of 1798 for the federal government "to use the full and
4 immense power of federal and state law enforcement to eliminate the
5 presence of all foreign gangs and criminal networks bringing devastating
6 crime to United States soil, including our cities and inner cities"; and

7 WHEREAS, At a campaign stop in Aurora, Colorado on October
8 11, 2024, Trump suggested the use of the Alien Enemies Act as part of
9 his "Operation Aurora" plan to "target and dismantle every migrant
10 criminal network operating on American soil"; and

11 WHEREAS, The Alien Enemies Act is referenced in Project 2025,
12 the blueprint organized by the Heritage Foundation that aligns with over
13 60 actions that the Trump administration has taken in its first month; and

14 WHEREAS, After his inauguration, President Trump signed

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.
Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.

SENATE
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1 several executive orders related to immigration, including an executive
2 order titled "Protecting the American People Against Invasion", which is
3 designed to "expand the use of expedited removal" of undocumented
4 immigrants under the guise of national security; and

5 WHEREAS, President Trump has declared a national emergency
6 at the United States-Mexico border and has instructed several federal
7 agencies, including Customs and Border Patrol and Immigration Customs
8 and Enforcement, to indiscriminately target immigrants and
9 undocumented people across the country; and

10 WHEREAS, President Trump has a history of repeatedly using
11 dehumanizing language to describe immigrants; and ___

12 WHEREAS, During his previous term, President Trump used his
13 authority as president to continue the Obama administration practice of
14 separating families and detaining migrants, including children, in
15 concentration camps at the United States-Mexico border; and

16 WHEREAS, The Alien Enemies Act was first passed in 1798 as
17 one of four Alien and Sedition Acts, giving authority during wartime to
18 the president to detain or deport the natives and citizens of an enemy
19 nation; and

20 WHEREAS, The United States is not at war with any country, and
21 therefore there are neither natives nor citizens of an enemy nation to be
22 detained; and

23 WHEREAS, In 1941, following the Japanese attack on Pearl
24 Harbor, President Franklin D. Roosevelt used the Alien Enemies Act to
25 arrest and unjustly detain innocent Japanese community leaders on the
26 west coast of the United States without due process in Department of
27 Justice "internment" camps; and

28 WHEREAS, In 1942, President Roosevelt signed Executive Order
29 9066, which authorized the forced removal of at least 120,000 people of
30 Japanese descent, of whom approximately 70,000 were American
31 citizens, for placement into concentration camps, stripping them of their
32 possessions, businesses, livelihoods, and dignity; and

33 WHEREAS, The concentration camps were built hastily by the
34 War Relocation Authority and kept the Japanese and Japanese-American

1 incarcerees under armed surveillance at all times, forcing the detainees to
2 face the hardships of extreme weather conditions, lack of privacy, mental
3 and emotional stress, and the disruption of family unity; and

4 WHEREAS, One of the ten United States concentration camps,
5 Amache, was built in Granada, Colorado and remains a physical reminder
6 of this dark chapter of American history; and

7 WHEREAS, In 1988, the Civil Liberties Act was signed into law,
8 which issued a formal apology for the wartime incarceration order and
9 provided reparations to the living survivors of the incarceration; and

10 WHEREAS, Several times since 1988, Congress and the executive
11 branch have issued apologies for wartime incarceration, and more
12 recently a decision by the United States Supreme Court overruled the
13 Korematsu decision, thereby acknowledging the error of this action; and

14 WHEREAS, The physical, emotional, and mental trauma of the
15 incarceration is still felt to this day by Japanese-American survivors and
16 their descendants; and

17 WHEREAS, Individuals, including many Japanese-American
18 descendants of wartime incarceration, have voiced their concerns about
19 the dehumanizing language and actions against immigrants in the United
20 States and have drawn parallels between the Japanese-American mass
21 incarceration and the actions of the federal government today against
22 immigrants and their families; now, therefore,

23 *Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Seventy-fifth General Assembly*
24 *of the State of Colorado:*

25 That we, the members of the Colorado Senate:

26 (1) Express disapproval of the federal government's invocation of
27 the Alien Enemies Act to target non-citizens living peacefully in the
28 United States; and

29 (2) Call on Governor Jared Polis to vocalize his support for all
30 Coloradans and use his office to build solidarity and trust with immigrant
31 communities; and

32 (3) Call on Senators Michael Bennet and John Hickenlooper of

1 Colorado to sign on to Senator Mazie Hirono's introduced bill in the
2 United States Senate, the Neighbors Not Enemies Act, to repeal the Alien
3 Enemies Act; and

4 (4) Call on Representatives Diana DeGette, Joe Neguse, Jeff
5 Hurd, Lauren Boebert, Jeff Crank, Jason Crow, Brittany Pettersen, and
6 Gabe Evans of Colorado to sign on to Representative Ilhan Omar's
7 introduced bill in the United States House of Representatives, the
8 Neighbors Not Enemies Act, to repeal the Alien Enemies Act.