



Memorandum in Support

April 28, 2026

A. 9589

S. 8522-A

By: M. of A. Cunningham

By: Senator Ramos

Assembly: Codes

Senate: Codes

Effective Date: Immediately

AN ACT to amend the civil rights law and the public health law, in relation to prohibiting federal immigration officers acting within the scope of their employment from entering hospitals

LAW AND SECTIONS REFERRED TO: Civil Rights Law is amended, adding new section 29

The New York State Bar Association supports A.9589/S.8522-B, The Sanctuary Hospitals Act, which would prohibit the entry of ICE agents in public hospitals, emergency rooms, or healthcare facilities across the State of New York, unless a valid judicial warrant is presented. When agents do have a judicial warrant, health facility administrators must be notified in advance and shall be afforded the right to consult with legal counsel. The bill also directs the State Department of Health to establish and distribute educational materials that inform healthcare facilities, healthcare providers and patients of their rights. NYSBA’s House of Delegates recently adopted a report drafted by the Committee on Immigration Representation which, among many other recommendations, calls for the support of this bill.

Since January 2025, the Trump Administration has issued 525 Executive Orders related to immigration that have disrupted long-standing immigration policies and practices, creating an arena for chaotic immigration enforcement and undermining the rule of law. Among the most far-reaching changes, Executive Orders and immigration enforcement practices have permitted immigration enforcement action in locations once deemed “sensitive” and off-limits, such as schools, churches and hospitals. In 2018, NYSBA examined ICE arrests at courthouses and recommended that the court system take all steps available to remove ICE agents from the courts.¹ This Report recognized that enforcement actions in certain civic spaces undermine fundamental rights and institutional integrity. Hospitals are explicitly listed in the federal Sensitive Locations Policy. The Sanctuary Hospitals Act essentially codifies that logic into state law.

Any person in the State of New York should be able to access medical care without the fear of being apprehended by ICE and possibly deported. Based on the foregoing and the attached report, the New York State Bar Association supports A.9589/S.8522-B and urges its passage.

¹ NYSBA Comm. on Immigration Rep., Report: Immigration and Customs Enforcement Arrests in Courthouses (adopted by NYSBA House of Delegates, Jan. 28, 2018), [Immigration-Report-and-Resolution.pdf](#)