

State of Vermont

Senate Chamber



Montpelier, Vermont

Senate Resolution

Offered by Senators Hashim, Beck, Ram Hinsdale, Baruth, Brock, Chittenden, Clarkson, Cummings, Gulick, Hardy, Harrison, Lyons, Perchlik, Plunkett, Vyhovsky, Watson, Weeks, Westman and White,

S.R. 21. Senate resolution relating to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's Operation Metro Surge.

Whereas, on January 5, 2026, approximately 3,000 federal agents, from both U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), were deployed to Minnesota's Twin Cities area as part of Operation Metro Surge, an ICE initiative to intensify the arrest and deportation of individuals not legally residing in the United States, and

Whereas, on January 7, 2026, in Minneapolis, Minnesota, an ICE agent fatally shot Renée Good, a U.S. citizen, while she was in her car at a location where ICE agents were engaged in Operation Metro Surge, and

Whereas, on January 24, 2026, in Minneapolis, Minnesota, CBP agents fatally shot Alex Pretti, also a U.S. citizen, at another location where Operation Metro Surge activity was occurring, and

Whereas, these and multiple other events pertaining to the methods of enforcing immigration law have triggered large protests both in and out of the State of Minnesota, as well as in Vermont, and

Whereas, as Caledonian Record publisher, Todd Smith, perceptively wrote, "A government that kills, then lies, and then threatens its citizens is not protecting the nation. It is undermining the foundations that make it worth protecting in the first place. And if those who claim to *be* the law are permitted to kill without consequence, then the law no longer governs them — and soon, it will no longer protect anyone," and

Whereas, the current situation is intolerable and must be changed immediately, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate:

That the President of the United States must immediately suspend Operation Metro Surge, take urgent steps to de-escalate federal enforcement actions, and reset the federal government's immigration enforcement priorities toward individuals who pose genuine threats to public safety, in full compliance with constitutional limits and the rule of law, and in the absence of such presidential action, Congress and the federal courts must fulfill their constitutional responsibility to intervene and restore adherence to due process and fundamental rights, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Senate of the State of Vermont unequivocally condemns the extrajudicial killings of Renée Good and Alex Pretti as grave violations of human dignity, civil liberties, and the constitutional protections owed to all persons, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Senate of the State of Vermont affirms that individuals possess inherent and inviolable rights under the First, Second, and Fourth Amendments to the U.S. Constitution, including the rights to free expression, the right to keep and bear arms, and protection against unreasonable searches and seizures, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Senate of the State of Vermont further declares that the lawful exercise of these constitutional rights—peacefully, responsibly, and within the bounds of the law—can never justify empowering federal agents to act as judge, jury, and executioner, nor to employ lethal force outside established legal process and accountability, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Senate of the State of Vermont strongly urges the Vermont Congressional Delegation to oppose any additional federal funding for ICE or related agencies unless and until there is demonstrable, enforceable reform that:

- (1) restores immigration enforcement to its core mission of identifying, prosecuting, and removing individuals who have committed serious criminal offenses;
- (2) ends indiscriminate, militarized enforcement tactics that undermine public trust and constitutional governance; and
- (3) reestablishes a lawful, functional immigration system—rooted in due process, transparency, and humanity—that provides clear, genuine pathways to legal status and citizenship for individuals, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of the Senate be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the President of the United States, the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, and the Vermont Congressional Delegation.