

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 2309**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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PRESENTED BY:

***Marc T. Lombardo***

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*To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:*

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to sanctuary cities and towns.

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PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Marc T. Lombardo</i>	<i>22nd Middlesex</i>	<i>1/7/2025</i>
<i>Kelly W. Pease</i>	<i>4th Hampden</i>	<i>4/29/2025</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 2309**

By Representative Lombardo of Billerica, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2309) of Marc T. Lombardo for legislation to prohibit cities or towns from failing to enforce federal immigration laws by designating themselves as sanctuary cities and to withhold unrestricted general government aid to cities and towns for non-compliance. Municipalities and Regional Government.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 2079 OF 2023-2024.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court  
(2025-2026)**

An Act relative to sanctuary cities and towns.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 Chapter 39 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2014 Official Edition, is hereby  
2 amended by adding the following new section:-

3 Section 1. As used in this act the following words shall, unless the context clearly  
4 requires otherwise, have the following meanings:-

5 “Illegal immigrant”, an individual who is not a United States citizen and who is not  
6 lawfully present in the United States.

7 “Political subdivision”, city, town, or country.

8           “Satisfactory immigration status”, immigration status under which an individual who is  
9 not a United States citizen is lawfully present in this country.

10           Section 2. (a) A political subdivision may not enact an ordinance, adopt a resolution, or  
11 establish a policy that prohibits an employee of that political subdivision from doing any of the  
12 following:

13           1. Inquiring whether an individual who has been lawfully detained or arrested has  
14 satisfactory immigration status.

15           2. With regard to the immigration status of any individual who has been lawfully  
16 detained or arrested, sending the information to, or requesting or receiving information from, the  
17 federal government. Such information may include information regarding an individual's place  
18 of birth, and such information may be maintained by the political subdivision and may be  
19 exchanged with another political subdivision, another state, and with the federal government.

20           3. Assisting or cooperating with a federal immigration officer, including the provision of  
21 enforcement assistance.

22           4. Permitting a federal immigration officer to enter and conduct immigration enforcement  
23 activities in any building or facility under the control of the political subdivision.

24           (b) If a political subdivision has in effect on the effective date of this legislation, an  
25 ordinance, resolution, or policy that is inconsistent with par. (a), the ordinance, resolution, or  
26 policy does not apply and may not be enforced.

27           Section 3. (a) If the attorney general, a district attorney, or a police chief believes that a  
28 political subdivision is failing to comply with the requirements of sub. (2) (a), the attorney

29 general, or the district attorney or police chief with the appropriate jurisdiction, may file a writ of  
30 mandamus with the Superior Court, for the county where the alleged failure to comply with sub.  
31 (2) (a) occurred to compel the noncomplying political subdivision to comply with the  
32 requirements.

33 (b) If the court finds that the political subdivision has failed to comply with sub. (2) (a),  
34 the court shall notify the Department of Revenue of its finding of noncompliance and the  
35 Department of Revenue shall reduce the amount unrestricted government aid payments to the  
36 political subdivision in the following year by one of the following amounts for each day after the  
37 filing of an action under par. (a) that the political subdivision was noncompliant:

38 1. If the population of the political subdivision is less than 10,000, \$2,000.

39 2. If the population of the political subdivision is at least 10,000 but less than 100,000,  
40 \$5,000.

41 3. If the population of the political subdivision is at least 100,000 but less than 250,000,  
42 \$10,000.

43 4. If the population of the political subdivision is 250,000 or more, \$15,000.