



May 7, 2026

Dear Honorable Colleagues:

As Chair of the Senate Committee on Steering and Policy, I respectfully request your support of **S.3072, *An Act promoting rule of law, oversight, trust and equal constitutional treatment***, which was reported favorably by the Senate Committee on Ways and Means last week.

This sweeping immigration package is one of the most vital components of the **Response 2025** initiative led by the Committee on Steering and Policy.

The Committee has been working diligently over the past several months researching and reviewing a number of policy proposals, engaging with all members of the Senate, and soliciting feedback and collaborating with a wide variety of stakeholders — immigration advocates, civil rights experts, law enforcement agencies, government officials, and more. The result of these efforts has culminated into this comprehensive legislation, which builds off of and strengthens many proposals from Governor Healey and our colleagues in the House of Representatives, and incorporates new ideas from Senate members, bringing forward a bill that protects our residents and defends our values.

At a time when our residents — especially our immigrant community members — are looking for support as the federal government has unleashed a campaign of fear with no compassion, the Massachusetts Senate must deliver a strong response that defends the civil rights of those in Massachusetts and stands up to the heinous actions of the Trump Administration. We cannot allow the lives of our residents to be disregarded so callously.

Everyone in this Commonwealth deserves our defense of the Constitutions we took an oath to protect and defend. Particularly, the Massachusetts Constitution reads: “All people are born free and equal and have certain natural, essential and unalienable rights; among which may be reckoned the right of enjoying and defending their lives and liberties; that of acquiring, possessing and protecting property; in fine, that of seeking and obtaining their safety and happiness. Equality under the law shall not be denied or abridged because of sex, race, color, creed or national origin.”

The Senate’s version of the PROTECT Act works to ensure that all in Massachusetts have the ability to enjoy and defend their lives and liberties, to seek and obtain their safety and happiness, and are able to do so in Massachusetts under equal protection of our Commonwealth’s laws.

I strongly urge your support of this legislation before us on behalf of the Senate Committee on Steering and Policy. The Committee, in accordance with the Response 2025 initiative, will continue to identify and recommend support of policies that protect our residents, defend the Commonwealth's values, and lead Massachusetts through these difficult times. We thank you for your support of the Response 2025 initiative and our efforts to bring these critical policies to the Senate floor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cynthia F. Friedman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Senator Cindy F. Friedman  
Chair, Senate Committee on Steering and Policy