



**CONTACT: Katy Delgado (914) 960-6050**  
**FOR RELEASE: Tuesday, May 12, 2026**

**SENATE DEMOCRATS BLOCK REPUBLICAN EFFORTS TO END SANCTUARY POLICIES**  
*NY-CARES Act Would Prohibit Policies That Impede Federal Law Enforcement*

Just one day after passing [reckless legislation](#) that could make it easier for illegal immigrants to vote, Senate Democrats on the Investigations Committee today defeated a bill ([S.3649](#), **sponsored by Senator Dean Murray**) that would increase public safety for all New Yorkers by prohibiting sanctuary policies that prevent or impede efforts by federal law enforcement authorities.

The NY-CARES ACT was introduced in the wake of municipalities throughout the state passing so-called “sanctuary policies” that prohibit local law enforcement officials from working with federal law enforcement partners in enforcing federal immigration laws.

“The decision to vote down the NY CARES Act sends a dangerous message that cooperation with law enforcement is optional. New Yorkers expect laws to be enforced, and public safety to remain a top priority. Policies that impede coordination with federal authorities only make it harder to keep our communities safe and create unnecessary risks for law enforcement and residents alike. We should be focused on strengthening public safety, not undermining it. This vote makes New Yorkers less safe and is deeply disappointing,” **stated NYS Senator Dean Murray, 3rd Senate District.**

The bill was placed on the agenda per a motion for committee consideration made by Senator Dean Murray and was voted down by Senate Democrats.

###