

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

June 18, 2025

The Honorable Kristi Noem  
Secretary  
Department of Homeland Security  
Washington, D.C. 20528

Mr. Todd M. Lyons  
Acting Director  
Immigration and Customs Enforcement  
Washington, D.C. 20536

Secretary Noem and Acting Director Lyons,

Today, Members of Congress were denied entrance to the Broadview Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Processing Center in Illinois (1930 Beach St., Broadview, IL). The visit to the processing center comes after credible reports that the center is being used to unlawfully detain immigrants, contrary to city and state ordinances, including constituents of the Members who sought entry. The reports suggest that constituents are being held in the center for prolonged periods of time without access to their medication, legal counsel, or basic necessities.<sup>1</sup>

Under the law, Members of Congress have the authority to enter any facility operated by or for the Department of Homeland Security used to detain people.<sup>2</sup> Whether that facility is formally identified as a detention facility is irrelevant. The operational capacity of agents and staff at the facility is also irrelevant when it comes to allowing access to members of Congress. It is the role of Congress to provide oversight. Yet, you and the rest of the Trump Administration continue to break the law and bypass Congressional authority to conceal the ways in which you are abusing your power to violate our rights, undermine due process, and tear our communities apart.

As Members of Congress, we take our obligation to provide oversight seriously. Your lack of respect for Congress as a co-equal branch of government is evidenced by your reckless attempt to dismantle oversight capacities within the Department and your repeated obstruction of access to ICE facilities.<sup>3</sup> In the past several weeks, officials denied Members of Congress conducting oversight access to ICE facilities and detention centers in New Jersey, California, New York, and now the state of Illinois.<sup>4</sup> Your actions prove your lack of commitment to accountability, your

<sup>1</sup> Nate Rodgers, *Hundreds received texts, emails ordering them to go to Broadview immigration center*, Fox 32 Chicago (June 15, 2025), <https://www.fox32chicago.com/news/two-people-detained-broadview-immigration-center-after-hundreds-received-texts-emails>; Angelica Sanchez and Ethan Illers, *Broadview ICE facility faces scrutiny over alleged poor conditions, treatment*, WGN (Jun 7, 2025), <https://wgntv.com/migrants-in-chicago/broadview-ice-facility-faces-scrutiny-over-alleged-poor-conditions-treatment/>

<sup>2</sup> Section 527(a), Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2024 (Pub. L. 118-47).

<sup>3</sup> Public Citizen, *DHS Reverses Decision to Abolish Three Key Civil Rights Offices* (May 23, 2025), <https://www.citizen.org/news/dhs-reverses-decision-to-abolish-three-key-civil-rights-offices/>

<sup>4</sup> Alanna Durkin Richer, Eric Tucker, and Mike Catalini, *Democratic Rep. McIver charged with assault after skirmish at ICE center, New Jersey prosecutor says* (May 19, 2025); Jesus Jiménez, Chelsia Rose Marcius, and Nate Schweber, *5 Lawmakers in California and New York Are Denied Access to Federal Detention Facilities*, N.Y.

disregard for Congress as an equal branch of government with oversight authority, and your intent to conceal the campaign of terror you are waging against our communities.

We believe in due process, the rule of law, and the Constitution. We believe in our democracy, in checks and balances, and accountability. We believe that undermining our laws and processes makes us all less safe. And because we believe in those things, we cannot allow you to continue to violate the rights of the people, undermine due process, and misuse our resources. We demand that you allow us to exercise our right to oversight over ICE facilities and detention centers, to ensure that people being held there are being treated humanely, with dignity and respect.

Anything less is shameful and illegal.

Sincerely,



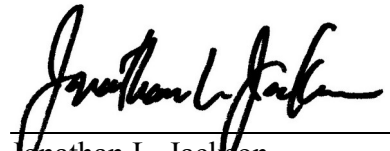
Delia C. Ramirez  
Member of Congress



Jesús G. "Chuy" García  
Member of Congress



Danny K. Davis  
Member of Congress



Jonathan L. Jackson  
Member of Congress