

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

August 16, 2020

Dear Friends,

I wish I could be with you in person at today's NH Immigrant Solidarity Network Day of Action. Thank you to Never Again Action, NH Immigrant Solidarity Network, NH Alliance for Immigrants and Refugees, NH Indonesian Community Support, American Friends Service Committee, Unitarian Universalist Action-NH, Granite State Organizing Project and the NH Council of Churches for organizing today's event to bring awareness, and much-needed change, to the Trump administration's immigration policies.

During these deeply challenging times, it is critical that we stand together and advocate for our most vulnerable friends and neighbors. That is why I have joined my colleagues in repeatedly urging the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to take immediate steps to address safety concerns regarding the detainees being held in Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) custody during the COVID-19 pandemic. I have called for the transfers of all detainees between facilities to be halted, including new transfers brought into the ICE system from the state prison system or local law enforcement agencies; expansion of testing in all ICE facilities; and the individualized assessment of each detainee's case to determine if release is appropriate.

In the face of the Trump administration's many attempts to diminish our immigration system, shut our nation's doors to asylum-seekers and silence peaceful protestors, we must stand firm in our efforts to ensure the United States remains a beacon of hope and safety.

In the midst of this crisis, I am grateful for your advocacy, resiliency and vigilance. It is needed now more than ever.

Sincerely,



Jeanne Shaheen
United States Senator