

Senate Bill 517

By: Senators Howard of the 35th, Jones II of the 22nd, Merritt of the 9th, Orrock of the 36th,  
Kemp of the 38th and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 1 of Title 35 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 general provisions regarding law enforcement officers and agencies, so as to prohibit the use  
3 of immigration detention centers in this state for two years; to provide for definitions; to  
4 provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 Chapter 1 of Title 35 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general  
8 provisions regarding law enforcement officers and agencies, is amended by adding a new  
9 Code section to read as follows:

10 "35-1-17.1.

11 (a) As used in this Code section, the term:

12 (1) 'Detainee' means a noncitizen who is held in an immigration detention center pending  
13 immigration proceedings or removal from the United States under the authority of the  
14 United States Department of Homeland Security or United States Immigration and  
15 Customs Enforcement.

16 (2) 'Immigration detention center' means any facility located in this state that holds  
17 detainees, including private facilities contracted by the federal government to hold such  
18 detainees.

19 (b) In order to allow the state time to develop a comprehensive, long-term plan that  
20 promotes dignity and justice in the operation of immigration detention centers, no such  
21 centers shall be operated or otherwise used between July 1, 2026, and July 1, 2028."

22 **SECTION 2.**

23 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.