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*****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*****

Statement on Governor Hochul's New Measures to Limit ICE Collaboration and Expand Protected Locations

(NEW YORK, NY) – The Legal Aid Society issued the following statement in response to Governor Kathy Hochul's announcement of legislation banning Immigration and Nationality Act § 287(g) agreements that allow local law enforcement to collaborate with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and expanding protected locations:

"Governor Hochul's proposed ban on 287(g) agreements that allow local law enforcement to collaborate with ICE is a welcome step toward protecting immigrant New Yorkers from harmful federal overreach. While New York City's existing sanctuary and detainer laws already prohibit such collaboration, this measure is a significant step for the rest of the state, affirming that New York celebrates and protects immigrant communities.

"We also support Governor Hochul adding New Yorkers' private homes to the list of sensitive locations — alongside houses of worship, schools, and hospitals, as announced during her State of the State Address — where immigration enforcement is not permitted. These steps strengthen existing constitutional protections that require a judicial warrant for ICE to enter these spaces.

"Building on today's developments, we strongly urge Albany to enact the New York For All Act, which would establish clear, statewide limits on state and local cooperation with ICE, close dangerous loopholes, and ensure that no New Yorker is subjected to immigration enforcement through contact with state or local agencies."

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The Legal Aid Society is a nonprofit law firm that exists for one simple yet powerful reason: to ensure that New Yorkers are not denied their right to equal justice because of poverty. For 150 years, we have protected, defended, and advocated for those who have struggled in silence for far too long. Every day, in every borough, The Legal Aid Society changes the lives of the people we serve and helps improve our communities.

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