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

***Statement on Governor Hochul’s Expanded Proposal to Protect New Yorkers  
Against ICE***

(ALBANY, NY) – The Legal Aid Society issued the following statement in response to Governor Kathy Hochul’s expanded proposal to protect New Yorkers against U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE):

“Governor Hochul’s expanded proposal includes welcome measures to prohibit law enforcement, including ICE agents, from concealing their identities, while also creating new avenues for challenging constitutional violations and safeguarding sensitive locations, among other important steps toward protecting immigrant New Yorkers.

“At the same time, we share the [serious concerns](#) raised by other advocates about provisions that would allow coordination with ICE in criminal matters. Any policy that grants state or local law enforcement broad discretion to engage with federal immigration authorities risks opening the door to profiling and abuse, with a resulting erosion of trust between immigrant communities and local institutions.

“The Legal Aid Society urges Albany to strengthen this proposal by enacting the New York for All Act, which would establish clear, statewide limits on such collaboration. New York must adopt policies that unequivocally protect immigrant communities, uphold due process, and ensure that all New Yorkers can access the courts, engage with public services, and live their lives without fear.”

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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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