

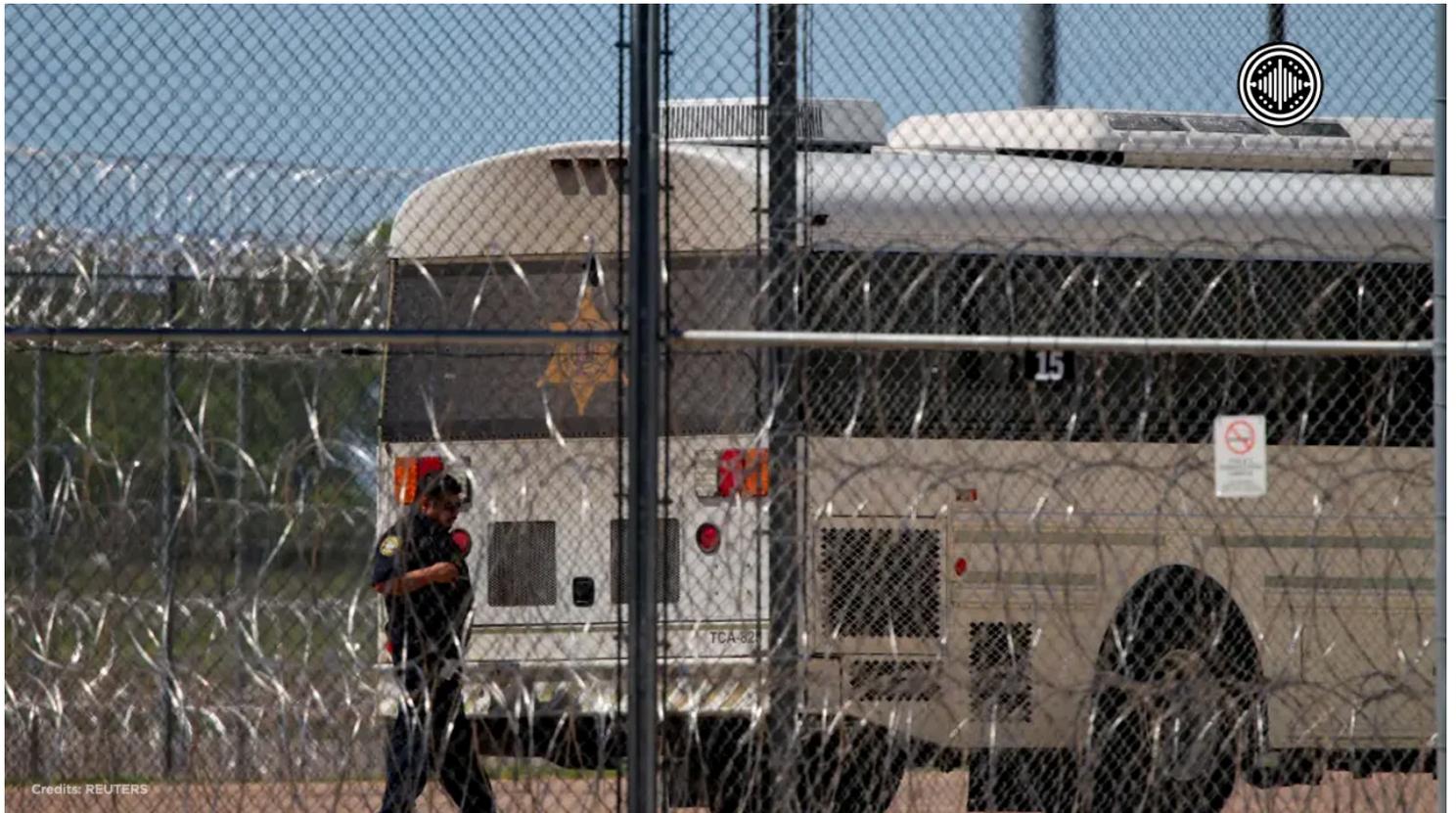
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US Policy Sparks Human Rights Concerns Over Detention

July 15, 2025

– Categories: Human Rights



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The Trump administration is moving to significantly limit bond hearings for immigrants who entered the United States unlawfully, a policy that could expand detention and strengthen immigration enforcement after years of lenient standards.

According to an internal memorandum reviewed by Reuters, United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement, known as ICE, has issued new guidance instructing prosecutors to

treat several immigration statutes as outright prohibitions on releasing detainees after arrest. The directive, signed by acting director Todd Lyons on July 8, encourages ICE attorneys to argue aggressively for continued detention during immigration court proceedings. This shift comes as President Donald Trump renews his promise of mass deportations, citing record numbers of illegal crossings during President Joe Biden's tenure.

Congress recently approved a funding package to support detaining at least 100,000 individuals, nearly doubling the previous high of about 58,000 in federal custody as of late June. Supporters of the policy contend that tougher enforcement is essential to restore order at the southern border and discourage further unlawful entry, which has strained public services and overwhelmed border communities.

Critics, including Tom Jawetz, a former Department of Homeland Security official under Biden, argue the policy reverses decades of legal precedent and could prompt significant litigation. He described the measure as a “radical departure” that would dramatically increase the detention population. Nonetheless, advocates for stricter immigration control see it as a necessary correction to years of lax oversight that have allowed millions to remain in the country while their cases drag on for years.

While legal challenges are likely, the administration's determination to curb illegal immigration reflects a broader priority to secure the border and enforce existing laws more forcefully, a stance many Americans believe is long overdue.