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## Minnesota House of Representatives

Renee Good's death is tragic. It is imperative that the events of that day be objectively evaluated without premature conclusions, which only serve to embolden strongly held opinions and deepen division at a moment when clarity, truth, and accountability are most needed.

No statement that attempts to justify the loss of a life can be reconciled with basic decency or respect for our shared humanity. Likewise, suggesting that increased aggression toward ICE is the remedy, is neither effective nor responsible.

Demanding that ICE leave Minnesota will not resolve this crisis. For context, the federal government has the authority to enforce federal immigration laws. While states and localities can adopt policies that make enforcement more difficult or limit local cooperation, they cannot prohibit federal agents from operating within their borders. States do not have jurisdiction over federal law enforcement actions.

Some cities and counties have passed sanctuary resolutions, including policies that limit local cooperation with federal immigration enforcement. What we are now witnessing in Minnesota is the conflict that arises when those policies intersect with a large federal immigration operation on the ground. The strained relationship between state and local leaders and the federal administration has only intensified tensions and operations here.

While enforcing immigration laws is a legal responsibility, these actions must prioritize safety and respect for all individuals involved. Regardless of local sanctuary policies, state and local leaders need to work with ICE officials to de-escalate enforcement tactics, and ICE leadership should clearly communicate the protocols of its operations enshrining the values of justice and humanity.

Minnesota is not the only state where local jurisdictions have asserted sanctuary status, but it has become a focal point of national attention due to the scale of enforcement actions and a tragic incident that claimed the life of a U.S. citizen. If you feel compelled to speak out, do so peacefully, and take action by reaching out to your members of Congress. Urge them to work together on solving America's immigration challenge. The Dignity Act of 2025 offers a constructive starting point for discussion and bipartisan solutions.

The President and Minnesota's Governor must stop the political power struggle over ICE operations and start acting like leaders. Lives and community trust are at stake, and this is not about scoring points; it's about working together to restore order and protect the people we all serve. We all need to be accountable for our actions, and our focus must be on ensuring transparency, accountability, and justice, rather than partisan rhetoric or broad generalizations.