

# [***White House Plan To Reduce ICE Deportations Sparks Fury***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6B8X-R8R1-JBR6-9000-00000-00&context=1516831)

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**Length:** 242 words

**Byline:** James Bickerton

**Highlight:** Republican Senator Tom Cotton accused the Biden administration of "blackmail."

**Body**

Senior [*Republicans*](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/republicans?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) reacted with fury after White House press secretary [*Karine Jean-Pierre*](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/karine-jean-pierre?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) said U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement ([*ICE*](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/ice?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships)) would "be forced to reduce its [migrant] removal operations" after GOP leaders in [*Congress*](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/congress?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) spoke out against a bipartisan immigration and foreign aid agreement backed by the Biden administration.

Speaking to reporters on Air Force One, Jean-Pierre said: "Because congressional Republicans are choosing partisan ***politics*** over our national security and refusing to pass the bipartisan national security agreement that includes significant border reforms and funding, over the coming weeks ICE will be forced to reduce operations because of budget shortfalls."

Claiming Congress was blocking much needed border security funding she added: "Here is what that means: ICE would be forced to reduce its removal operations, its total detention capacity, and more. When ICE can't conduct these operations, our national security and public safety will be harmed."

Responding on X, formerly [*Twitter*](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/twitter?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships), Republican Senator Tom Cotton accused the Biden administration of deliberately stoking illegal immigration.

He shared a [*Fox News*](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/fox-news?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) story about Jean-Pierre's remarks, adding: "This is blackmail. And an admission that Biden controls the level of illegal immigration. The entire border crisis is by design."

Cotton's post was reposted by Texas Governor [*Greg Abbott*](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/greg-abbott?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships), who added: "This is spot on."

*This is a developing story.*

[*Link to Image*](https://d.newsweek.com/en/full/2346235/ice-agent.jpg)

**Graphic**

ICE agent

Smith Collection/Gado/GETTY

Stock photo showing a US Immigration and Customs Enforcement's (ICE) special agent preparing to arrest alleged immigration violators at Fresh Mark, Salem, June 19, 2018. ICE could be forced to "be forced to reduce its [migrant] removal operations" because of Republican opposition to a Senate immigration and foreign aid deal according to the White House.

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