

This email newsletter is part of NHMC's Information Education Movement and aims to educate and empower the NHMC community by providing accurate information, debunking information fraud, and encouraging civic engagement.

Legislation Lookout:

A National Gerrymandering Battle

Gerrymandering is the act of redrawing districts to favor one party or outcome. If done recklessly, it can make someone's vote less than if they were in another district. While gerrymandering is legal in some states, it usually occurs every decade along with the most up to date census information. A mid-decade redistricting is unprecedented and is right before 2026 midterm elections.

Governor Greg Abbott has called a special session to vote on redrawing congressional districts to ensure Republican strongholds, taking 5 Democratic seats. On August 3rd, more than 50 Texan democratic lawmakers left the state in an attempt to delay a vote in the special session.

Several Democratic states have threatened to gerrymander if Texas follows through. Most notably has been Governor Gavin Newsom of California. [In a passionate letter to President Trump](#), Newsom said "California cannot stand idly by as this power grab unfolds. I do not do this lightly, as I believe legislative district maps should be drawn by independent, citizen-led efforts as we have done in California for the last two decades."

On August 14, Governor Newsom announced a special election on November 4th. This is meant to ask Californians for their consent to do midterm redistricting in 2026 and upcoming years. This is a direct response to the actions taken by Governor Abbott.

On August 18, Texas Democrats return to special session where the vote for the new maps will most likely pass. [Click here for the most up to date information.](#)

To learn more about gerrymandering, [click here.](#)

To learn more about the gerrymandering battle, [click here.](#)

Weekly Dose of Positivity:

Venus Williams' Iconic Barbie

Tennis legend Venus Williams has officially made her debut in the iconic Barbie Hall of Fame. In a tribute to her extraordinary career and cultural impact, Mattel has chosen to honor Williams in a Barbie doll that captures one of her most memorable moments, winning the Wimbledon wearing an all-white outfit in 2007. The new Barbie was released on Friday, August 15, 2025, and celebrates Williams not only as a champion on the court but also as a trailblazer and role model off it.





(Photo Credit: Senator Jon Ossoff's Website)

Information to Know:

Behind the Scenes of ICE Detention Centers

On July 29, Georgia Senator Jon Ossoff released an extensive report that investigated the human rights abuses occurring in ICE detention centers. There have been 500 confirmed reports including deaths in custody, physical and sexual abuse, mistreatment of pregnant women, mistreatment of children, inadequate medical care, overcrowding and unsanitary living conditions, inadequate food or water, exposure to extreme temperatures, denial of access to attorneys, and family separations. One of the most disturbing stories from this report was when “a U.S. citizen child with severe medical issues was hospitalized three times while in Customs and Border Protection custody with her non-citizen mother, and that when the girl began vomiting blood, the mother begged for medical attention. A CBP guard reportedly responded, “Just give the girl a cracker.”” This investigation is active and ongoing. It is believed that there are numerous occurrences that are going unreported.

To read the report, [click here](#).

Information to Know:

The Tech Backbone of ICE

Ever wonder how ICE operates? None of it would be possible without tech giant Palantir. Palantir Technologies has been the enabler of ICE since 2011. During the first Trump administration, their mobile application FALCON has been labeled mission critical to ‘successful’ ICE raids. Their share price has increased 200% this year alone. At the expense of family separation, Palantir founder Peter Thiel’s net worth has increased \$9 million since January.

Palantir made a \$30M deal to equip ICE with an online immigrant tracking system, known as the Immigration Lifecycle Operating System (ImmigrationOS). This tracking system is intended to optimize identification and physical location of potential deportees, tracking real time self deportations, and streamlining ICE removals. However, Palantir has yet to explain how they are going to limit the tracking to immigrants. Civil rights groups have warned that this system sets a



898898989889898999909000Photo Credit:
Reuters



Photo Credit: Kathleen Davis (2019 Protest at
Carnegie Mellon University)

dangerous precedent that can easily be used to surveil Americans in a clear invasion of privacy.

To learn more about the role of Palantir, [click here.](#)

Quote of the Week:

“When tyranny becomes law, rebellion becomes duty.”
- Thomas Jefferson

Useful Tips and Tools:

[NHMC: Resources
for ICE Raids](#)

[Organizations
Joint
Comments to
the FCC on the
Direct File
Rules](#)

[Civil Rights
Organizations
Oppose DC
Policing
Takeover](#)

[Community
Leaders Demand
Whittier City
Council Action
on Immigration
Rights and Due
Process
Protections](#)

[Donate to NHMC](#)

