

GOP

FROM PAGE B4

all online, that is paid for by the federal government, these officers are deputized by Immigrations and Customs Enforcement," Roberts said. "And they can only engage in this limited enforcement while under the supervision of the federal authorities in order to ensure that there is oversight, that there is accountability."

If approved, Roberts' proposal would direct the Kentucky State Police and local law enforcement agencies to have a written agreement with ICE under Section 287(g) of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996. The program is often referred to as the 287(g) Program.

Under such agreements, ICE can delegate "the authority to perform specified immigration officer functions" to state and law enforcement officers, the federal agency's website says.

ICE expanded the number of agreements by 641% after Republican President Donald Trump took office earlier this year. However, immigrants and their advocates have argued that these agreements can lead to racial profiling

and lack oversight.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security previously announced that law enforcement agencies participating in the 287(g) Program would be eligible for significant reimbursements starting in October. An example of that is that ICE may reimburse an agency for "the annual salary and benefits of each eligible trained 287(g) officer, including overtime coverage up to 25% of the officer's annual salary."

Roberts argued the agreements would bring in significant dollars to Kentucky law enforcement agencies. He added that he had been working with legislative liaisons for DHS and ICE on the legislation and it was "one of their top priorities."

Committee co-chair Rep. Patrick Flannery, R-Olive Hill, emphasized that he viewed the agreements as "an opportunity to potentially utilize resources from the federal government to implement those into our local communities that we serve."

Democratic lawmakers took issue with the proposal. Rep. Sarah Stalker, of Louisville, said she had "a lot of concern" about deputizing officers for a new jurisdiction, particularly when news reports across the country have highlighted what

many see as cruelty and abuse during arrests and mass raids.

"I feel like this would simply exacerbate an issue that is already on its own out of control," Stalker said.

Before the meeting, advocacy group Kentucky Citizens for Democracy expressed concerns about Roberts' proposal and encouraged lawmakers to reject the legislation.

"This proposal, which strips local governments of the ability to decide their own level of cooperation with federal immigration enforcement, is fundamentally unacceptable," the group said in a statement. "Our cities and counties know their communities best. Forcing them into mandatory cooperation with ICE, given its long history of egregious and cruel actions, violence, and overly aggressive tactics, will deepen fear, break trust, and push our immigrant neighbors further into the shadows."

Interim committees do not vote on bills or proposals that come before them. When the General Assembly reconvenes in January, bills are heard in committees where lawmakers can approve or reject them.

Kentucky Lantern is a non-profit news site covering state government and politics.

DISTRICT

FROM PAGE B4

substance in the first degree (fentanyl), and possession of drug paraphernalia. A not guilty plea was entered. A preliminary hearing was set for Nov. 25.

Richard A. Ribbey was arraigned for promoting contraband in the first degree. A not guilty plea was entered. A preliminary hearing was set for Dec. 2.

Gary M. Chadwell had a bench warrant issued for his arrest in an arraignment for public intoxication by a controlled substance excluding alcohol.

Raul Perez-Vazquez had a bench warrant issued for his arrest in an arraignment for operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol first offense (aggravating circumstance), and no operators license.



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Shannon Bree Jordan pleaded guilty to public intoxication by a controlled substance excluding alcohol and assault third degree peace officer communicable bodily fluid. She was given credit for time served.

James C. Russell saw his case bound over to the grand jury for assault fourth degree dating violence with minor injury, strangulation first degree (domestic violence related), and resisting arrest.

Michael L. Woods pleaded guilty to harboring a vicious animal. He agreed to surrender the dog and pay the cost for the care of the dog.

Jennifer Bryan pleaded guilty to unauthorized use of a motor vehicle first offense, and no operators license. She was fined \$25 and sentenced to 90 days in jail with five days to serve and the balance to be suspended after one year of there being no further violations of the law.

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CASEY COUNTY EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE

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Members of the public may contact the Casey County Emergency Planning Committee by writing:
Chairman, Casey County Emergency Planning Committee

P.O. Box 306
199 Courthouse Square, Suite B
Liberty, Kentucky 42539

The Casey County Emergency Planning Committee conducts meetings at the Casey County Emergency Management Office, 199 Courthouse Square, Suite B, Liberty, Kentucky 42539, or at other locations in accordance with the Kentucky Open Meetings Law. Members of the public may request to be notified of regular or special meetings as provided in KRS 61.820.

Records of the Planning Committee including the county emergency response plan, material safety data sheets, Tier II inventory forms, and any follow-up emergency notices are open for public inspection during normal business hours (8:00 AM-4:00 PM Eastern Time, Monday-Friday) at the Casey County Emergency Management Office, as required by the Kentucky Open Records Law.

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The Casey County News

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