



Josh Stein, Governor  
*State of North Carolina*


GOVERNOR JOSH STEIN OBJECTIONS AND VETO MESSAGE:

***House Bill 318: AN ACT TO MODIFY ELIGIBILITY FOR RELEASE AND REQUIRE NOTIFICATION OF RELEASE TO IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT WHEN A PRISONER IS SUBJECT TO AN IMMIGRATION DETAINER AND ADMINISTRATIVE WARRANT.***

House Bill 318 is unconstitutional. I support the bill's efforts to require sheriffs to contact federal immigration authorities about people in their custody charged with sexual battery, armed robbery, arson, assault on public officials and court personnel, and other dangerous crimes. People who commit these crimes should be held accountable, whether or not they are here without legal authorization, and those charged with serious offenses ought to receive increased scrutiny from federal immigration officials.

My oath of office requires that I uphold the Constitution of the United States. Therefore, I cannot sign this bill because it would require sheriffs to unconstitutionally detain people for up to 48 hours after they would otherwise be released. The Fourth Circuit is clear that local law enforcement officers cannot keep people in custody solely based on a suspected immigration violation. But let me be clear: anyone who commits a serious crime in North Carolina must be prosecuted and held accountable regardless of their immigration status.

Therefore, I veto the bill.

  
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Josh Stein  
Governor

READ  
JUN 23 2025  
James White

The bill, having been vetoed, is returned to the Clerk of the North Carolina House on this the 20<sup>th</sup> day of June 2025, at 3:00 PM for reconsideration by that body.

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RECEIVED  
JUN 20 2025  
3:24 pm  
RECEIVED FROM GOVERNOR  
michelle Poole