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MARKEY NOT FAMILIAR WITH STATE SENATE'S ICE PROPOSAL

A Senate plan to restrict cooperation between local authorities and federal immigration enforcement has riled the State House, but it has apparently not struck a chord yet with Sen. Edward Markey.

During a press conference on Monday, Markey said he was not aware of the proposal, offered by Sen. Jamie Eldridge and adopted by the Senate in May, to prohibit local law enforcement from entering collaboration agreements with with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and prevent police from inquiring into people's immigration status.

The budget rider is a point of contention between the House and Senate, and is wrapped up in protracted state budget talks.

"I'd have to read it," Markey, who has protested separations of immigrant families at the southern border, told the News Service when asked about the plan.

The proposal, according to Eldridge, is intended to protect public safety without instilling fear in immigrant communities that can lead to crimes going unreported and a lack of trust between residents and police. Massachusetts is the only state without an annual budget in place.

During the press conference, which was held at a Planned Parenthood in Allston, Markey held a moment of silence for officer Michael Chesna, who was shot and killed in Weymouth Sunday morning. He also addressed President Trump's nomination of Judge Brett Kavanaugh, saying Senate Democrats are going to organize in a bid to block his confirmation. "We are going to create a political firestorm around Judge Kavanaugh's nomination," Markey said. - Chris Triunfo/SHNS



During a press conference, Markey said he was not aware of Sen. Jamie Eldridge's proposal to prohibit local law enforcement from entering collaboration agreements with with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and prevent police from inquiring into people's immigration status. [Photo: Chris Triunfo/SHNS]

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