

RAYMOND CLARK

Falmouth

LD 1971

My testimony submission is for both LD 1259 and 1971. I support the passage of LD1971 and 1259 because I believe Maine should encourage immigrants to move here, and we should provide a safe and profitable area for them to get established. We need the work force and the diversity. Our law enforcement officers are needed to enforce our local laws, not thoughtless federal decrees. Maine police and sheriffs should not be entering 287(g) agreements, which deputize them to enforce federal immigration law on ICE's behalf. These optional programs are harmful, unaccountable, and unconstitutional, and are a direct attack on our communities. Maine Police should not be helping ICE tear families apart. Law enforcement agencies (state, county, local) as well as other officials should not be collaborating with ICE/Border Patrol. Like all Americans, immigrants have rights of due process, and legal representation. Immigrants may not be arrested without a valid reason, or have unreasonable search and seizure. There is no emergency of immigration surges into the U.S. that needs local and state police forces to help manage. Please send both LD1971 and 1259 to the full legislature for a vote.