

Linden Thigpen Pavloff
So Portland
LD 1971

May 19th, 2025

Re: LD 1259 & LD 1971

Respectful greetings to Senator Carney & honorable members of the Judiciary Committee,

I am Linden Thigpen, living in So Portland, & wish to testify in writing my support for LD 1259 & LD 1971.

At 80+ years of age I am strongly aware of the benefits to the quality of my life & my community that the ongoing settlement of immigrants has enriched our State & our country.

LD 1259 & LD 1971 support a moral & ethical respectfulness of our residents from away who work to support our communities, pay taxes & spend their incomes locally that increase our state's revenues.

As a landlord I have a family from Afghanistan, here on a Humanitarian Visa & two Ukrainian families, with three children, who came at the start of the Russian invasion of their country.

Each family paid their own way here; are working & paying state & federal taxes; are active community members, etc. They add diverse life experiences to the conversation of who we are as a state.

Each family, having fled a fearful situation, now lives in fear in America, of a police or ICE detention. These families fled dangerous situations to raise their families in safety, with children aspiring to higher education & service to the greater good ~ a traditional American dream. Now they smile at me & say they hope they will be OK.

As Mainers we need to continue to set a high standard of moral, ethical & respectful engagement with everyone living here or visiting. Please support LD 1259 & LD 1971.

I thank you for considering my sincere views of what is in the highest & best interest for all of us.

I remain,
Linden Thigpen
So Portland, ME