

Cynthia Marten
South Portland
LD 1259

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and esteemed members of the Judiciary Committee:

My name is Cynthia Marten and I live in south Portland. I am a member of the Allen Avenue Unitarian Universalist Church in Portland where social justice issues are extremely important.

I am testifying in support of LD 1259 An Act to Enhance Public Safety in Maine by Defining the Relationship Between Local and Federal Law Enforcement.

This bill has caught my interest because it is essential to the safety and well being of the people

of our state. All people in Maine need to be supported in seeking safety, health, and educational

opportunities, so law enforcement, health care facilities, and schools must remain spaces they

can access without fear of retaliation. The actions that ICE has been taking over the last months

are unconstitutional because they deny due process to people who are living in our country.

Having our local police forcibly remove people off the street from schools or healthcare facilities

would break the trust that is essential to their ability to keep us safe.

As UU's we declare that every person is inherently worthy and has the right to flourish with

dignity, love, and compassion. We believe in encouraging multicultural communities where all

feel welcome and can thrive.

For these reasons, I urge the committee to vote Ought to Pass on LD 1259.