

Robert Foster
South Portland
LD 1971

Dear Judiciary Committee Member,

I am writing to urge your support of LD 1971: An Act to Protect Workers in This State by Clarifying the Relationship of State and Local Law Enforcement Agencies with Federal Immigration Authorities

I believe that protecting our residents benefits everyone. Crime is statistically significantly lower in areas with similar policies compared to areas without. Economies have also grown: from higher median household income, less poverty, and less reliance on public assistance to higher labor force participation, higher employment-to-population ratios, and lower unemployment.

We all want safety, but safety means being able to call the police when something's wrong, no matter who you are or how you look. When people don't trust police, they're less likely to report domestic violence, fraud, or unsafe working conditions—issues that affect everyone in a community, not just immigrants.

Maine's economy depends on immigrant workers, and stability helps everyone. Immigrants power key sectors across Maine. When families live in fear, they're less likely to show up to work, school, or civic life. That means missed shifts, empty school desks, and fewer people participating in civic life. LD 1971 gives communities the stability they need to keep working, learning, and contributing to a stronger Maine.

As your constituent, and a Maine taxpayer, I do not want my tax dollars to be spent on harmful law enforcement activities vis-a-vis immigrant populations.

Again, I urge you to vote in support of LD 1971.

Thank you.

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