

Katie Saunders
Hampden, ME

In support of LD 1259
In support of LD 1971

Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee,
Thank you for the opportunity to address the Committee.

I am fully in support of LD 1259 and LDD 1971 and thank the representatives who have submitted and sponsored this bill.

ICE and DHS have been responsible for extensive human rights violations, including family separations, prolonged detention of asylum seekers, illegal imprisonment and expulsions, and the targeting of immigrant communities. This mistreatment has been ongoing for decades and has only increased since the start of Trump's second term. No state resources should be used to assist or legitimize these abusive federal practices. Local law enforcement must not act as extensions of federal immigration enforcement. Trust, safety, and human dignity for all must come first. Maine should continue to be seen as a safe haven and a welcoming place for immigrants. Immigrants are our neighbors, friends, and family.

Thank you,

Katie Saunders