

Barbara Freeman
Falmouth
LD 1259

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and esteemed members of the judiciary committee:

My name is Barbara Freeman, and I am a resident of Falmouth, Maine. I am testifying in SUPPORT of LD1259, An Act to Enhance Public Safety in Maine by Defining the Relationship Between Local and Federal Law Enforcement. The law enforcement, health care facilities and schools of Maine must remain spaces which all the people of Maine can access without fear of retaliation. Involving our local police in the forcible removal of people from these spaces would break the trust that is essential to their ability to keep us safe. . I oppose any program like 287(g) which promotes “partnerships” between ICE and our state and local law enforcement agencies. The actions of ICE are unconstitutional – denying due process to people living in our country. Such partnerships make us all less safe and divert local resources from investigation of serious crimes and other responsibilities. I believe in encouraging multicultural communities where all feel welcome and can thrive. Such communities will strengthen our state, and for these reasons, I urge the committee to vote OUGHT TO PASS on LD 1259.