

Hannah DeAngelis  
Portland  
LD 1259

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Portland, Maine

May 19th, 2025

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to write to the Committee. My name is Hannah DeAngelis, I'm a resident of Portland, I grew up in Readfield, and I am the parent of a 1 year old and a 3 year old. I am writing to voice my support for bill LD1259.

As the former director of Catholic Charities's refugee resettlement program in Maine for seven years, I am familiar with the way that new immigrants to Maine are oriented to local police and to ICE in our state. A conflation of these two bodies does not make our community safer. In fact, this kind of partnership would result in a decrease in trust in local law enforcement and make immigrant communities less likely to come forward with information that could help solve or prevent crime.

As a parent of two small children, I am also very invested in how everyone in our community, of all immigration statuses, can feel that they are welcome in our city. I do not believe the increased presence of ICE and collaboration of ICE with local police makes our communities' safer. I think we are all safer, and my young family is safer, when everyone in our community does not live in constant fear of arrest and deportation.

I urge you to vote in favor of LD 1259. Thank you for your time,  
Hannah DeAngelis