

To: Committee on the Judiciary

From: Marianne Hill, Ph.D.

Date: May 18, 2025

Re: Testimony in support of **LD1259**

**An Act to Enhance Public Safety in Maine by Defining the Relationship
Between Local and Federal Law Enforcement**

Senate Chair Anne Carney; Representative Chair Amy Kuhn; and members of the Joint Committee on the Judiciary,

I am writing in support of LD1259, a bill which would help to protect people living in Maine from seizure and deportation without a hearing. Unfortunately, as we know, federal immigration enforcement authorities, most notably ICE, have defied court rulings and have deported dozens of people without the hearing that is their right, according to our laws - even though their lives may be put in danger as a result.

The State of Maine recognizes the need to uphold human rights. Mainers believe in the rule of law, which is especially important in the treatment of immigrants who may have fled threats of imminent violence in their home countries.

Let us uphold basic democratic principles in Maine. This means that local law enforcement should not enter into contracts with federal authorities who have not been acting in accord with our laws & democratic values and rather have been grabbing people where they find them and deporting them without due process. Please vote “ought to pass” LD 1259.

Yours truly, Marianne Hill, PhD, South Portland

Marianne Hill
South Portland
LD 1259

This bill is a step towards safeguarding our democracy and human rights. It deserves an 'ought to pass'.