

Ann Dodd-Collins
Portland
LD 1971

Dear Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and members of the Judiciary Committee,
My name is Ann Dodd-Collins. I live in Portland, and I am a member of Portland Friends Meeting (Quakers). I am writing in 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".

This bill would prevent local law enforcement agencies from engaging in immigration enforcement activities. It would also prohibit state employees from asking one's immigration status unless required to do so by law. In other words, this bill would help to ensure that local and state police and state employees would be doing the work they are supposed to do, focusing on local priorities and maintaining the trust of their communities.

We need to protect the residents of Maine, regardless of their immigration status. When people don't feel they can trust the police, our communities become less safe. When individuals and families are afraid to show up for work or send their children to school, we all lose. Maine's economy depends on immigrant workers. This bill is a step toward ensuring they are valued.

Please vote Ought to Pass on LD 1971.
Thank you.