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LD 1971

Thank you Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn and honorable members of the Judiciary Committee. My name is Kale Vonderau, I live in Corinth, and I am writing to testify in favor of LD 1259.

Every person deserves due process and has human rights that go well beyond the limits of State and Country lines. These rights that those in the White House seemingly ignore. The horrific act of terror happening to immigrants are unconstitutional and inhumane. ICE are plucking people off the streets and dragging them into unmarked vehicles, without identification or any apparent warrant and shipping people who have families, children that depend on them, thousands of miles away with no way of contacting them or their legal representative. In most cases, they are legally here awaiting word on their status. This is unacceptable. Our police departments should be upholding their oath to protect ALL and not using its limited resources to target people of color and terrorizing neighborhoods. Programs like 287(g) make everyone feel less safe, creating fear and a lack of cooperation with local law enforcement. Maine has an opportunity to take a stand and defend its most vulnerable and marginalized folx, define safety and protocol, and most importantly uphold the Constitution. I strongly encourage you all to vote in favor of LD 1259 and remind Mainers that we stand with our neighbors and stand for Human Rights. Thank you.