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LD 1259

I'm writing in support of LD1259, An Act to Enhance Public Safety in Maine by Defining the Relationship Between Local and Federal Law Enforcement. Maine must pass legislation to protect our immigrant community from the mounting threat of ICE. They need to know they can call on our police without fear of retribution.

Immigrants enrich our state and are vital to the economy. They fill essential jobs in so many sectors, including healthcare, education, manufacturing, seasonal harvesting and hospitality. In addition to being responsible, taxpaying members of society, they are our friends, neighbors and even family members.

These people should feel safe and protected here. They have the right to go about their daily lives without fear of being kidnapped off the street or in the workplace by ICE just because of their skin color or nationality.

It is criminal to detain and imprison these people without due process. It is also cruel, separating families and interrupting jobs and studies with no concern about the harm ICE is inflicting.

Our police cannot be complicit in such horrendous and unwarranted activity. Please pass LD 1259.