

Hadriane Hatfield
Portland
LD 1259

Dear Members of the Committee On Judiciary,

My name is Hadriane Hatfield and I'm a constituent of Portland, ME. I'm writing to urge members of this committee to vote "ought to pass" on LD 1259--An Act to Enhance Public Safety in Maine by Defining the Relationship Between Local and Federal Law Enforcement.

Prohibiting state law enforcement from entering into contracts with federal immigration enforcement authorities protects Maine's law enforcement from possible future overreach from the Trump administration and allows them to concentrate on their highest local priorities. Many federal immigration practices violate people's human rights and cause unjust and unnecessary pain and suffering. This bill would ensure that Maine's law enforcement officers are not complicit in those harms. It would also help officers build trust with immigrant communities. Finally, on a fundamental level, I believe it is hypocritical, immoral, and cruel and for a colonizing government to police new immigration based on a double standard, especially when it helped create the conditions that lead people to flee their home countries. Maine should be working to repair historical injustices like those, not doubling down on them.

Please vote "ought to pass" on LD 1259. It's good for law enforcement and good for the safety and health of Maine communities.

Sincerely,
Hadriane Hatfield
04101