

Daisy Goodman
14 Howard St
Old Town, ME 04468

May 19, 2025

Judiciary Committee

RE: LD 1259 and LD1971

Dear Judiciary Committee members,

I am writing to express my strong support for LD 1259 and its companion bill protecting state workers, LD 1971. These bills are critically important to keep all Maine residents safe and to protect those of us who work for the State of Maine or local municipalities.

LD1259 protects all of us by prohibiting any Maine law enforcement agency to enter into a 287g or other legal agreement to carry out federal immigration enforcement actions on behalf of ICE. Unfortunately we have seen the impact of immigration enforcement by ICE in our communities already: incarcerating parents and tearing families apart, arresting people- sometimes American citizens- without due process, deporting valued community members, business owners and employees, and destroying trust in our communities. ICE activities are the subject of numerous legal actions against the federal government right now due to violations of US Constitutional Rights and basic human rights as well. Why would we allow Maine law enforcement to cooperate in this type of activity?

Maine has been a strong supporter of human rights and decency in the face of threats by the current Federal Administration, and should continue to stand up for what is right here as well. These two bills are critically important to avoid turning our state into a police state. Specifically, deputizing local police to carry out federal immigration enforcement turns every routine encounter into a potential deportation risk. The 287(g) program overwhelmingly impacts people with no criminal history through minor traffic offenses, and is also strongly implicated in racial profiling. Programs like 287g therefore make everyone in our communities less safe, creating fear of law enforcement which causes people to avoid involving police even when such involvement is needed for something such as domestic violence, other threats, or unsafe working conditions.

We also can't afford to strain local resources. Spending time on immigration enforcement such as is required by 287 (g) agreements divert resources away from the

investigation of serious crimes or responding to community emergencies- state and local police actions that might actually keep our communities safer.

I urge you to vote in favor of these two bills, to keep our Maine communities safe.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Daisy', followed by a long horizontal line that ends in a small arrowhead.

Daisy Goodman

Old Town, Maine