

Anne Farrington  
Auburn  
LD 1259

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Auburn, Maine  
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Sen. Carney, Rep. Kuhn, and Other Members of the Joint Standing Committee on  
Judiciary:

I am not anti-ICE. In 2003, with good reason, this agency -- US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (under our Department of Homeland Security) was created to protect us from trans-national crime and illegal immigration that threaten our public safety and national security. How ironic it is that today, ICE is recognized as an immediate threat to our public safety throughout our nation.

I'm a registered voter, taxpayer, retired, and increasingly anxious and alarmed by ICE here in Maine and throughout our country. The stories of people being kidnapped by ICE (or their subcontractors or false actors) paint a dire picture of life in America today and they frighten me. Because of ICE (and "ICE"), there are people in Maine --- my neighbors and yours --- who are afraid to go to court, afraid to go to church, afraid to go out --- and they are by no means criminals or here in our country illegally.

Unfortunately, you can't protect me, my family and our neighbors from a federal government that wrongfully sends someone to a terrible prison in El Salvador and then ignores a Court order to return them home, but I'm hoping you can do something to us -- throughout the State of Maine -- with regard to ICE. I believe that LD 1259 (Defining the Relationship Between Local and Federal Law Enforcement) is a small step toward doing that.

Please support and protect our public safety in Maine and vote Ought To Pass on LD 1295.