

Anne Farrington
Auburn
LD 1971

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

Please support and protect our public safety in Maine and vote Ought To Pass on LD 1971 - An Act to Protect Workers in This State by Clarifying the Relationship of State and Local Law Enforcement Agencies with Federal Immigration Authorities.

I am NOT anti-ICE. In 2003, with good reason, our US Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency (under the Department of Homeland Security) was created to protect us from illegal immigration and trans-national crime that threaten our public safety and national security.

But how ironic it is that today, ICE is recognized as an immediate threat to our public safety in Maine and throughout our nation.

I'm a registered voter, taxpayer, retired, and increasingly anxious and alarmed by ICE here in Maine and beyond. 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 disturb 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.

I believe LD 1971 supports and protects Maine citizens AND especially local police officers and law enforcement agencies by spelling out their responsibilities with regard to federal immigration authorities. All six items listed in the bill's summary are vitally important and necessary.

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 believe you CAN do something to protect us from ICE overreach throughout the State of Maine: please support LD 1971.