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Bangor
LD 1971

In re LD 1971-1259

The committee did not have time for me to offer testimony by Zoom today, but I want to add my voice to everyone who has spoken so eloquently today. I support both LD 1971 and 1259 because refusing to actively assist federal officials with their draconian “immigration crackdown” is the bare minimum that we can do.

Immigration is a strictly federal legal issue that local, county, and state law enforcement officials have no business investigating or enforcing except to the extent clearly required by federal law. People are being deported without due process of law, “deported” to countries that they are not from, and being sent to modern dungeons on an indefinite basis without a criminal conviction. In some cases people here legally, including citizens, are being deported. Trump’s second administration is only four months old, and we are already at this stage.

The federal government is not going to stop this project voluntarily, and that is not a matter of speculation or hyperbole. High-ranking federal officials and attorneys are openly moving to expand this project. They will not stop with immigrants, migrants, and asylum seekers, as bad as this stage has been already. One key to their plan is Trump’s purported abolition of birthright citizenship, which would enable arbitrary or capricious designation of individuals as non-citizens who are accordingly subject to deportation or incarceration. Consider that executive order in conjunction with the expansion of the Guantanamo Bay prison, the use of a concentration camp in El Salvador, executive orders to use military “assets” for law enforcement purposes and for “border security,” open defiance of federal court orders, invocation of the Alien Enemies Act, and the blurring of distinctions between civil and criminal violations of immigration statutes. They are building the legal and physical architecture for ethnic cleansing and the violent suppression of political dissent.