

Kassady Colette Webb

Age 21

Resident of Rome, Maine

19th May, 2025

My Testimony

(LD 1259 LD 1971)

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and Members of the Judiciary Committee,

My name is Kassady Webb, I am a disabled, queer, rural Mainer, and I am a fourth-year secondary education major with a concentration in social studies at UMF. Through these experiences, as a person of multiple intersectional marginalized identities and also as a student of social studies, I have been able to come to understand systems of oppression and how they function.

Let me get one thing clear, the federal government is fundamentally committing genocide. in the past few months, the federal government has expanded ICE, launched mass deportation programs on the basis of land of origin, and purposely targeted queer spaces, as well as the spaces of Latine and Black people, based on the race, sexuality, and gender identities of the people within them. They have detained immigrants, many of whom are Palestinian, for dissenting against the United States' involvement in the genocide of Palestinians, and built new detention centers or rented detention facilities in other countries to confine concentrated populations of detainees.

In other words, the federal government has built concentration camps to hold socially, ethnically, racially, and politically marginalized people against their will, with the goal of removing them from American society. This is not only genocide, it is genocide that has direct parallels to the actions of the Nazis.

These bills are not asking Maine to resist or stop genocide. No, these bills are asking for something much simpler and something that takes much less effort: for the state simply not to cooperate with the forces that commit genocide. The only reason the federal government has not carried out a mass, nationwide genocide is because they can't, they simply do not have the guns or resources to kill us all. So instead, they rely on local agencies to do their dirty work. By making these cooperation agreements, the federal government is essentially buying our police to act as their hired guns for their genocide.

It is because of this that I urge the committee today to vote "ought to pass" on LD 1259 and LD 1971, to ensure that the state of Maine does not become even more complicit in genocide.

מיר וועלן זיי איבערלעבן

Kassady Webb