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LD 1259

I am writing in support of LD 1259. Immigration enforcement is a federal, not a state or local affair, even in normal times—and these are not normal times.

When you deport a man, any man—all the more so a father and husband of an American citizen who had acquired legal permission to reside and work in the United States, like Kilmar Abrego Garcia--you don't seize and send him, without a warrant, a hearing, or any other judicial process, to an infamous prison in another country that is reputed to hold its inmates for life. That is not normal.

When you discover that this particular seizure and deportation was mistaken, surely you set about immediately to correct your mistake. To fail to do so is not normal.

When the United States Supreme Court unanimously declares that you must facilitate his return, you don't decline to facilitate his return. Ignoring an order of the United States Supreme Court is not normal.

And when lower federal court judges try to factually discover just what you are doing, have done, and why, you don't completely stonewall them. THAT is not normal.

Washington's immigration-related actions are the tip of a spear that is being slowly pushed into the heart of the United States Constitution.

State and municipal law-enforcement is hard enough without its police officers having to supplement or become complicit in the actions of ICE or any other federal immigration authorities.

The Legislature should pass LD 1259.