

Sorrel Dunn
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LD 2106

My name is Sorrel Dunn and I am a contributing, healthy, and educated citizen of this nation because my grandfather was able to safely immigrate to the United States after being forced into hiding in Europe during WWII. I write to testify in favor of LD 2106 because I want all people to be safe in pursuing the fundamentals of education and healthcare as they build lives in this land. Indiscriminate ICE arrests in Maine (including of people here legally, and of children from school grounds) has spread profound fear, making students stay home from school and impacting families' abilities to participate in the economy and seek health care. These arrests are cruel and, in some cases, illegal. Moreover, as a public health and economic concern, it is common sense to protect humans as they seek health care (preventing, eg, deaths and the spread of communicable diseases), food, and social services through schools and libraries (promoting their responsible participation in society and, in the case of children, giving them a safe place to be so that their parents can go to work). The important public policy reasons for making sure all children can access their educations, as well as food and other stability provided at school, that all people can seek medical care and share important public health information, has long been recognized by both Democrats and Republicans alike as common sense. Now that ICE is at large in Maine, the need for this common sense and its enforcement is greater than ever.