

Testimony IN FAVOR of LD 2106

I am testifying in favor of LD 2106, *An Act to Prohibit the Disclosure of Nonpublic Records Without Proper Judicial Review*. I live in Westbrook, where much of the recent surge in ICE activity has been seen. This has sent shockwaves through the community, with students who feel unsafe going to school and people afraid to seek healthcare or go to the grocery store. These fears are not unfounded, as one of the reported arrests in Westbrook was an 18-year old student at USM picked up by ICE agents on his way to class. I have heard from friends working in the hospital system that many patients have not come to their appointments for fear of being targeted by immigration officials. When I helped pack food for immigrant families afraid to go to the grocery store, the demand was huge – hundreds of new families in the greater Portland metro area asking for deliveries every day. This bill is needed to help all Maine people feel safe moving freely in public spaces.

This bill would help protect the rights and safety of vulnerable Maine residents by creating guidance to prevent ICE agents from entering non-public spaces in schools, childcare, and healthcare facilities without a valid judicial warrant, and is necessary due to the elimination of a federal policy that prohibited ICE enforcement actions in sensitive spaces. The bill would take steps to support the safety of people accessing the critical public services that they need, including education and healthcare.

Please vote ought to pass on LD 2106.