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LD 2106

I write in passionate support of LD 2106, the emergency bill to make sure ICE agents can't enter private spaces in hospitals, schools, and childcare centers. Under the current administration, immigration enforcement is violent and indiscriminate, targeting immigrant communities in general - often based solely on the way people look, and seeking to create environments of extreme fear and trauma in our communities, as well as actual family separation, detention in inhumane conditions, and deportation to life-threatening circumstances. Since the Trump administration began its mass deportation campaign, immigrant families in Maine have been afraid to leave their homes, to go to work, send their children to school, seek healthcare, seek social services, attend religious services, exercise their religion, move freely, and more. Pragmatically, small businesses are closing their doors, harming Maine's economy and the livelihoods of its residences.

LD 2106 will provide important clarity and guidance to workers at these private spaces that a decision has been made by Maine's state government that immigration officers are prohibited from entering these locations without a valid judicial warrant, and workers at these places are not allowed to provide voluntary consent to all immigration officers to enter. LD 2106 protects people accessing services at these sensitive locations, as well as the people who work there. We can and must do better as a community, a nation, and as humanity. LD 2106 is one small step towards doing better.