

Kathryn Liberman  
Owls Head  
LD 2106

LD 2106 - An Act to Prohibit the Disclosure of Nonpublic Records Without Proper Judicial Review

January 29th, 2026, 1 pm  
Katie Liberman – Owls Head, Maine

To Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and the Judiciary Committee members:

My name is Katie Liberman, and I am a public educator in the St. George peninsula, teaching marine sciences to K-12 students and the general public. I am writing to ask the Judiciary Committee members to vote ought to pass for the emergency legislation, LD 2106 (An Act to Prohibit the Disclosure of Nonpublic Records Without Proper Judicial Review). While a judicial warrant is technically required for sensitive record retrievals, the Department of Homeland Security has insisted that this is not the case and that only an administrative warrant is required. Furthermore, we need additional legal protections at the state level because ICE is constantly violating federal law. We know that children are in danger while in ICE custody and have been used as bait to lure their families into custody. We know that these federal officers are hurting children by forcibly removing them from their families and communities, and unless this bill passes, I cannot follow my ethical obligations as a public educator and remain in compliance with the law.

Educators in this country have it hard enough—with low wages, staffing shortages, declining literacy rates, and challenges to public educational funding and programs—it isn't a walk in the park to teach. When we teach, we are not just teachers, but confidants, advocates, cheerleaders, guardians, and in some cases, human shields for our students. We are asked to lay down our lives for our students with little or no training if an active shooter appears at our classroom door. We are expected to treat our students as if they were our own children. Students learn best when they feel safe and loved. This is true regardless of where you are in the world.

When ICE kidnaps children from schools, libraries, daycares, and neighborhoods, how can we as teachers stand aside when every fiber in our being screams at us to shield our students from harm? We've seen firsthand the fresh horrors coming out of Minneapolis. With ICE on our doorstep now, we cannot delay action. While the government-sanctioned shootings and kidnappings are not new to communities of color, many white people are just now waking up to the systems of oppression our country invented and thrived on for centuries. Now is not the time to cower in fear—now is the time to act. By protecting immigrant communities from harassment and oppression by ICE as much as we can, we are protecting all of our communities here in Maine.

Maine is known for being a neighborly state where we look out for each other. Not even a week after the ICE raids began in Maine, my phone notifications were blowing up from mutual aid offers and requests, hotline assistance information, and friends asking me how they could help those affected by ICE raids. I've been trying to support my community however I can. This bill has the potential to have a much more powerful impact than any of us could alone. All of Maine's children can go to school and receive an education, food, and safety and stability, as is their right. Mainers shouldn't have to skip going to the hospital or library out of fear of deportation. Mainers shouldn't be afraid to leave the house because of ICE. We all know the current emergency of the federal overreach, illegal deportations, and indiscriminate killings. Maine can rise against this in meaningful, legal, and actionable ways. Please vote ought to pass for LD 2106 emergency legislation today and consider adding amendments that expand protections for public nonprofit organizations. Thank you.