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LD 2106

I am a child psychiatry fellow and work daily with children, including children who are immigrants themselves or the children of immigrants. I am writing in support of LD 2106 in an effort to help immigrants and their family continue to receive healthcare. The increase in no-shows to our clinic since the increase in ICE action in the Portland area is incredibly concerning. This is not only in psychiatry-it is happening in healthcare of all settings. People are putting off treatment due to concerns that they will be abducted. This obviously has serious implications, both in the short and long-term. Avoiding medical care can be life-threatening and lead to complications. From a psychiatric standpoint, I am concerned about the traumatization and/or re-traumatization of our immigrant communities. Many immigrants left their home country due to fear of persecution including detainment and unfair legal treatment. This recurrence of trauma can lead to symptoms of PTSD, depression, anxiety, etc. Thank you for your time and consideration.

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