

Nesrene Griffin
Windham
LD 2106

Public Hearing: January 28, 2026

My name is Nesrene Griffin. I am a veteran educator serving the Lewiston community. I am writing in strong support of LD 2106, An Act to Prohibit the Disclosure of Nonpublic Records Without Proper Judicial Review. This important and timely legislation will protect Maine's public schools, hospitals, daycare, and libraries from ICE.

Of late, our 5th-grade class feels incomplete. We are missing members of our learning community every day out of justified fear of immigration harassment. It is heart-wrenching to watch children worrying about the immediate safety of their peers and the well-being of their families.

Schools must be sanctuaries where children feel safe to learn, grow, and thrive. Yet, across our state, that sense of security is being shattered. Instead of focusing on their studies, our students and their families are living in fear. They are witnessing the trauma of aggressive, unaccountable enforcement actions that terrorize neighborhoods and disregard due process.

This crisis extends to our staff. We are fortunate to have a diverse, committed workforce, but our educators are now showing up to work while feeling personally targeted and extremely vulnerable. When students and staff are petrified, learning is interrupted. We are seeing the results in rising chronic absenteeism, heightened anxiety, and disengagement in learning.

This is not normal nor is it acceptable. The presence of enforcement activity in and around schools creates a climate of immense fear that is fundamentally at odds with a safe learning environment. I urge you to support LD 2106 to restore the physical and emotional safety essential to Maine's public schools.