

Deborah Sewall
Hallowell
LD 2106

Dear Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee,
The presence of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents, as part 'Operation Catch of the Day,' is creating a climate of fear our friends neighbors. Specifically, we have seen that our friends and neighbors, many of whom have come to Maine in search of safety and a good life, and a future for their children, are afraid to go to work or the doctor, take their children to school, even make an outing to the library. This is horrifying, cruel, and unfair.

LD 2106 would require ICE to have a valid judicial warrant in order to conduct enforcement at schools, healthcare facilities, daycares, and libraries. The bill also ensures that information about an individual's immigration status that is held by these entities is properly protected unless federal law or a valid judicial warrant compels its sharing. The bill provides clarity to workers at these locations, so that they can make decisions based on the law when asked to share data.

In Maine, we have a long tradition of both respect for the law and protection of individual and human rights. Please enact this law that protects our rights to due process and privacy, and respects the humanity of our immigrant community.