

Caroline Moore  
Winter Harbor  
LD 2106

Good afternoon, Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and Members of the Judiciary Committee,

My name is Caroline Moore and I am a resident of Winter Harbor Maine. I am writing today in support of LD 2106, which would restrict federal immigration enforcement from entering hospitals, libraries, daycares, and schools without a judicial warrant. These places serve as critical resources for thousands of individuals and families in our state. But many of our neighbors are too afraid to access these spaces because of the recent indiscriminate, violent actions of ICE. By restricting ICE's access to these community places, we can ensure that everyone can use these basic services without fear.

As a public school teacher here in Maine, I firmly believe that we must protect our students and our teachers. Supporting LD 2106 is one important step we can take in trying to regain and develop a sense of safety in our schools and communities, for ALL students. Because it is ALL students that have the right to education, free from fear. ALL students deserve our support. It's up to us to make that happen.

I've spent so much time in professional development sessions, learning that students' most basic needs must be met before they can truly learn. This includes the basic human needs and human rights for safety and belonging. Across our state, this need is not being met. Students are scared to go to school, and if at school are scared to go to recess, in fear of ICE. Kids are worried about themselves, their families, their friends, their teachers. Learning cannot happen in this fear based environment.

It is our role as teachers and community members to ensure that all students are able to access learning that is safe and supportive. It is also our role as adults to set a strong role model for our students. In this moment, will they see adults who will look away and comply with the terror and violence tearing apart our communities, particularly our immigrant communities? Or will they see strong, compassionate adults who will stand up for their neighbors, call out and take action against oppression, and do everything they can to protect students, immigrants, and our communities?

I urge you to support LD 2106, as one important step towards ensuring that Maine's schools, libraries, healthcare centers, and daycares are a safe place for all who need them.

Thank you for your time and consideration.