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LD 2106

We are scared to go out alone in our communities, citizens and noncitizens alike. We won't shop in certain towns or businesses because people are being violently dragged from them. Kids aren't going to schools and our neighbors are traumatized by what they've witnessed and experienced. I am terrified thinking about my neighbors who are in inhumane detention centers with no proper food, water, hygiene, or other basic necessities. They are in concentration camps because that is what those are.

That I am a citizen means nothing for my safety. ICE can do anything to us and face no consequences and therefore any of us is at risk of this escalating violence. Do not think that lawmakers or anyone else of standing is any safer; without checks and balances, history has shown us that no one is protected from the violence and harm of authoritarianism. Many of us feel powerless right now, but you can change the tide of history in these local actions. Take a stand, this bill is the very least that can be done, but each step means everything!

There is no reason for ICE to conduct immigration enforcement at schools, daycares, hospitals, and libraries, and no Maine parent should feel afraid to send their child to school or take them to the doctor when they are sick. ICE should be required to get approval from a judge and a valid judicial warrant in any of their work and the fact that they don't is horrifying. The reality is that ICE in its current form has no business anywhere in our state at all. LD 2106 is, again, the least we can do, but it is all the more essential that we do it. It is moments like this that stop the deluge and turn its course. If we win liberty by a million small actions then let this be one of many!

Thank you for your consideration.