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LD 2106

As a former teacher and grandparent, and your constituent, I am writing to urge you to support LD 2106. This bill will protect Maine children, students, hospitalized individuals and library patrons from being accosted by immigration enforcement officers at daycare centers, medical facilities, schools and public libraries.

I use the word accosted because of the tactics being used by ICE and CBP in Maine and throughout the country. No one should be subjected to illegal abductions and detention without due process by masked, unidentified agents who then take the prisoner out of state away from legal and community support. Too many people, citizen and non-citizens, who are NOT HORRIBLE CRIMINALS, have faced these unconstitutional measures. The federal government supports these actions and is not interested in doing the right things. It is up to Maine lawmakers to step on the brakes. (Even someone who is suspected of serious crimes deserves and is entitled to due process. It's in the Constitution!)

When law enforcement agencies in Maine, as well as other leaders and Maine voters/tax payers, oppose the inhumane treatment of immigrants or any person of color, our political leaders should be paying attention. These are our neighbors, friends and family. They should not be afraid to live their lives peacefully in Maine, one of the safest states in the Union.

Citizens, including Maine's indigenous people, fear being accosted and with good reason.

Children are missing school. Adults are absent from work. Sick people refrain from getting care. Even going to the library or grocery store is a risk. Businesses are suffering and so will our economy. How could this be making our communities safer or healthier?

Republicans used to care about individual rights and the rule of law....especially the 1st, 2nd and 4th amendments. Why have so many abandoned their responsibility to uphold the US Constitution and the Maine Constitution?

If we don't wake up and challenge these authoritarian tactics, no one who challenges this administration's goals will be safe...no one.

I urge you to step up, be informed, be brave. Vote yes on LD 2106.