

Elizabeth Charles McGough
Gardiner
LD 2106

To the members of the Committee on Judiciary, thank you for reviewing my testimony. I write in support of LD 2106 to Protect Maine's Public Schools, Hospitals, Daycares, and Libraries from ICE. I have spent my professional life working for healthcare and youth-serving organizations and with immigrant communities. I believe in the fundamental human rights of all people to access healthcare and education. Article 25 of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights asserts: "Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services..." Article 26 says, "Everyone has the right to education." Our immigrant neighbors, who are contributing members of the workforce in Maine and lend beauty to the diversity of our cultural landscape, must be able to access healthcare and education without fear. Providers of these services must adhere to uniform guidance for protections of all individuals accessing these services and spaces while holding federal officers accountable to provide judicial warrants as required by the Constitution instead of intimidation tactics. For the effective functioning of our society, businesses, and the public health and the wellness of people across our communities, children and families deserve the peace of mind that they can access healthcare, education, and childcare services without fear. I recommend you vote Ought to Pass in support of LD 2106 to Protect Maine's Public Schools, Hospitals, Daycares, and Libraries from ICE.