

Jacob Cole
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LD 2106

My name is Jacob Cole, a political science student residing in Auburn. In recent months, I've watched as my community has been torn apart by ICE raids as our National Representatives sit idly by in the face of these egregious attacks by our own federal government. This is why I'm testifying heavily in favor of LD 2106, which would seek to restrict ICE and Border Patrol agents from conducting enforcement operations in schools, religious institutions, and other private spaces without first obtaining a judicial warrant, among other things. ICE has been operating for far too long under the guise of "implied permission" and legally grey "administrative warrants". This has allowed them to terrorize our communities via racial profiling, targeted mass raids, and the mere suspicion that someone has crossed the border unlawfully. This sets a dangerous precedent that undermines the due process guaranteed to us all under the constitution, and therefore I believe it is the State of Maine's responsibility to protect its own people in these horrific moments. Our nation was founded to spit in the face of tyranny and despotism, not aide in it's flourishing. And this bill takes a major step to ensure that the rule of law is upheld for every Mainer, regardless of their immigration status or racial background.