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Portland
LD 2106

I am a long-time resident of the Parkside neighborhood in Portland, Maine. Over the past week, I have personally witnessed two abductions of my immigrant neighbors by masked agents. Neither had any criminal record and were in the US pursuing asylum. I have spoken with other neighbors who are too terrified to allow their children to go to school, too anxious to go to previously scheduled doctors appointments, and too frightened to even go to the local public library. A few days ago, a USM student (where I taught for 30 years), was abducted by ICE agents after a fender-bender - this despite being in the country legally. The effect of that is profound on other immigrant students on campus.

The state of Maine has an obligation to protect its residents against what is clearly a rogue federal agency. This piece of legislation would create some measure of peace by making schools and hospitals and libraries safe spaces. I urge you to pass LD 2106. Thank you.