

Lizzie Baker
Harpswell
LD 2106

Dear Judiciary Committee,

My name is Dr. Elizabeth Baker and I live in Harpswell, ME. I am a board-certified pediatrician of 12 years who has worked in Maine, Massachusetts and New Hampshire in the role of emergency and inpatient and neonatologist (level II NICU and newborn nursery) over this time for Maine General/Northern Light, Maine General, CMMC as well as Boston Children's Hospital and Massachusetts General Hospital. I am writing and presenting my support for LD 2106, a bill that will restrict DHS and Immigrations and Customs Enforcement from accessing my patients' information in hospitals as well as will restrict access from protected spaces like daycares, libraries and schools, all of which affect my patient population.

I urge you as a pediatrician to forward this bill to protect not only the children in the state of Maine but their rightful caregivers. Enforce the protections afforded by HIPAA to privacy and back our efforts as health professionals to protect our patients both by providing the best possible medical care, protecting our right and duty not to disclose protected health information and also protect our rights to defend our patients' rights as we care for the ENTIRE FAMILY and we commit to the Hippocratic Oath to do no harm. We are bound to provide care for our population and are the front line in terms of all health (mental health/physical health/physical wellbeing/safety/security/the provision of all basic needs).

If and when we have to stand up for our patients, we expect protection. Stand up for us and the community we serve today.