

Testimony of Joby Thoyalil in *support of*
LD 2106, An Act to Prohibit the Disclosure of
Nonpublic Records Without Proper Judicial Review
January 29, 2026

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary. My name is Joby Thoyalil and I live in South Portland. I am speaking today in support of LD 2106, which is common sense legislation that will contribute to public peace, health, and safety. By prohibiting staff at various institutions from providing voluntary consent permitting law enforcement to enter nonpublic areas, LD 2106 will help immigrants and non-immigrants alike feel safe from the harassment, violence, and unwarranted arrests - for which federal immigration officials are now infamous - when visiting the institutions outlined in the bill.

In the past week and a half, federal immigration officers have created widespread panic and anxiety among Maine's immigrant communities. They are clearly doing so under false pretenses - claiming they are just going after criminals, but providing no evidence that this is in fact the case. This harassment and terrorizing of communities is cruel and needless and is wreaking havoc on people's lives. Our immigrant neighbors justifiably feel unsafe to even leave their homes, let alone go to work, school, shop for necessities, or seek medical services. In short, their ability to live their lives is on hold and the inability to do these things can lead to medical conditions worsening, children falling behind in school, loss of jobs, evictions and more.

LD 2106 will increase trust and confidence and serve to encourage our immigrant neighbors to go to school, seek medical care, drop their kids off at child care so they can in turn go to work, and make use of library services, which are meant for all residents. This legislation will also help to clarify the duties and responsibilities of staff at these institutions.

I strongly urge you to vote ought to pass on this bill.