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LD 2106

Testimony in Support of LD 2106: An Act to Prohibit the Disclosure of Nonpublic Records Without Proper Judicial Review

My name is Allyson Conley, and I am the Director of an early childhood program. I am writing in strong support of LD 2106.

Early childhood programs are meant to be safe, predictable environments where young children can learn, grow, and feel secure. That sense of safety depends not only on nurturing educators, but also on clear boundaries around who can access children, families, and nonpublic records. Recent immigration enforcement actions at the federal level have disrupted that sense of security for many families and the programs that serve them.

In early childhood spaces, we are already seeing the impact of this uncertainty. Families are afraid. Providers are unsure of their legal obligations. Children are absorbing stress that they do not have the capacity to understand or process. When enforcement actions occur without clear judicial oversight, or when the rules around access to information and entry into community spaces are unclear, the burden falls on childcare programs to manage fear and confusion that should never reach children in the first place.

I have had a parent tell me that if she did not arrive to pick up her child, she did not care who the child went home with — teachers, other parents — anyone except law enforcement. This statement was not about avoiding responsibility; it was about fear. It reflects the reality many families are living with right now, where the presence of immigration enforcement in or around child care settings feels threatening rather than protective.

LD 2106 provides an important safeguard by requiring proper judicial review before nonpublic records are disclosed. This clarity helps protect families, supports providers in understanding their legal responsibilities, and preserves early childhood programs as trusted community spaces. It does not interfere with lawful processes; it ensures those processes are handled appropriately and with accountability.

Passing LD 2106 sends a clear message that Maine values due process, family stability, and the well-being of young children. It gives early childhood programs the guidance they need to continue serving all families without becoming sites of fear or uncertainty.

I urge you to support LD 2106.

Thank you for your time and consideration.