

Amy Larkin
Arundel
1/29/26

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn and honorable members of the Judiciary Committee, my name is Amy Larkin, I live in Arundel, and I am writing today in strong support of LD 2106: An Act to Prohibit the Disclosure of Nonpublic Records Without Proper Judicial Review. Given ICE's operation in Maine, this bill is urgently needed.

I work at a small, independent school in Arundel as an administrative support and grant coordinator. I feel grateful to be part of a community that nurtures students and supports families. Everyday I see children excited to learn, to play, to feel safe to express themselves and take on new challenges. Our teachers and all our staff work to ensure that our students know they can trust us and share what they're feeling. A tremendous and wonderful part of our job is creating an environment that is conducive to learning, and everyone needs to feel safe and supported for that to happen. I know that teachers and school staff across our state work tirelessly to make sure this is true at their schools as well. Disrupting that trust, making schools and other public, communal spaces unsafe for children, families, and all our immigrant neighbors is traumatizing, and we as a state should do everything in our power to protect our people.

So many of our neighbors are afraid to leave home, go to work, seek healthcare or social services, and go about their daily lives. This bill would begin to make a difference for folks who are living in extreme fear by ensuring that ICE could not conduct enforcement within the spaces we all need most without a valid judicial warrant signed by a judge. I believe we should all live in a Maine where our children can receive education and safety at school, all residents can seek and find help when they're sick, and go to work or find the information they need at a library. And the people who work at daycares, schools, libraries and hospitals should not be afraid to report to work to do their essential jobs. We are talking about the entire fabric of our state. Maine is stronger and better because of our immigrant neighbors, and they are woven into every part of what makes this state a place I feel so strongly about.

Most of all, we are all human, and we all deserve safety and to live without fear. While this bill won't take away that fear, it is one way we can work to address it. LD 2106 is an opportunity to show up in this moment and ensure that all people can access crucial public services. I strongly urge you to vote in favor of LD 2106. Thank you so much for listening and for your time on this critical issue.

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