

**Testimony of**  
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**Regarding LD 2106: An Act to Prohibit the Disclosure of Nonpublic Records without Proper Judicial Review to the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary of the Maine Legislature**

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and honorable members of the Committee on Judiciary. My name is Deborah Deatrick and I live in Cumberland, Maine.

I am writing to ask for your strong support of LD 2106, which would prohibit ICE from entering schools, hospitals and healthcare facilities, daycares, and libraries to conduct immigration enforcement unless they can produce a valid judicial warrant signed by a judge.

I have a personal interest in this issue as I have been mentoring an Angolan family for the past three years with an organization called Welcoming the Stranger that is part of MANA (Maine Association for New Americans). They fled military and civil violence from gangs in their home country and made the treacherous journey through Central America and Mexico to reach Texas, Washington DC, and Maine.

The parents are working full time and have been paying taxes to the state and federal government for each of the past three years and have valid work permits. They have had their asylum hearings rescheduled at least 5 times. They have two children, ages 10 and 3. The parents are now locked in their apartment, afraid to go to the grocery store, laundromat, and work. They are afraid of losing their jobs and their apartment. The 10-year old is afraid to go to get on the bus and go to school. They are afraid that ICE and/or the Department of Homeland Security will request personal information from their employers, their church, their health care providers, schools and daycare, and other sources.

Like many concerned people across the state, I am doing grocery shopping and laundry for them, and picking up medicine and school work. They are incredibly stressed (as I am on their behalf). The mom has already missed important medical appointments. When I arrived at their apartment last Sunday morning, the 3-year old had just knocked out her two front (baby) teeth by jumping off a chair. But even though she was bleeding profusely, and has dental insurance through the Dad's fulltime job, they were too scared to take her to the Emergency Room.

This situation is terrible, inhuman, and is already having severe economic impacts on Maine employers, landlords, and businesses - not to mention the families, schools, and hospitals.

I often hear criticism from people who say immigrants are 'skipping the line.' Well, my relatives skipped the line too. They came on boats (not across rivers) from Germany, Eastern Europe, and beyond. No visas, no passports, no green cards, just a will to pursue the American Dream. Please help preserve that dream for the family I am helping and so many others who are here to do likewise - LD 2106 is an important bridge to help achieve that dream.

While today's announcement by Senator Collins may cause some to believe LD 2106 is not needed, I submit that is quite the contrary. There is no evidence that ICE will change its illegal and deadly practices because of an unsubstantiated 'deal' between Senator Collins and the Trump Administration. Protect the law and the constitutional rights of ALL people in Maine and vote LD 2106 "Ought to Pass."

Thank you for your consideration.

Deborah A. Deatrick, MPH