

Anya Rew

Etna

LD 2106

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1/29/26

Good afternoon, Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and Members of the Judiciary Committee. My name is Anya Rew, and I am a distraught citizen of Etna, Maine. I am testifying in favor of the proposed legislation in LD 2106. I am deeply concerned about the nearly unlimited, and immediate access immigration officers have to the vulnerable members of our community without judicial warrant. The safety of our community is compromised. Maine school districts are reporting declining attendance rates, as our children are too afraid to go to school. Maine Hospitals are seeing increasing numbers of call outs, as staff are afraid to go to work, and people in our communities are too afraid to seek healthcare. LD 2106 would help mitigate some of these impacts by prohibiting ICE from accessing schools, daycares, healthcare facilities, and libraries without warrant. These are sensitive locations that members of our community use to meet basic needs.

This is also a very frigid winter, and many of our neighbors who are experiencing homelessness and poverty are also putting themselves at further risk due to fear of ICE. Libraries often serve as daytime warming shelters while also providing access to information that can help them move out of homelessness. If the library is unsafe, our unhoused neighbors may stay outside, putting their lives at risk. LD 2106 could remove a barrier to potentially life saving services for individuals experiencing poverty and homelessness.

Please support LD 2106, and ensure that Maine's schools, libraries, Healthcare facilities, and daycares remain a safe place for all who need them.

Thank you so much for your time and consideration.