



Written Testimony of the Maine School Counselor Association

In Support of LD 2106

Submitted to the Judiciary Committee

Thursday, January 29, 2026

We are writing this letter today on behalf of the Maine School Counselor Association (MESCA), which represents over 350 school counselors that are working in every corner of the Great State of Maine to ensure safe learning environments, and the Maine Mental Health Counselors Associations (MEMHCA), which represents over 2,000 licensed clinical professional counselors in the state of Maine. MESCA and MEMHCA **strongly support LD 2106**, as this legislation is essential to maintaining trust and safety between school counselors and the students we serve.

In order to have successful learning outcomes, students need to be in environments in which they can thrive. This cannot exist without safety, both physical and psychological. When students fear their information could be accessed without proper legal safeguards, they will not seek support for major life needs. This directly harms their well-being and academic success.

LD 2106 will not prevent law enforcement from doing their jobs. It simply requires valid judicial warrants for access to private student records and nonpublic school areas, ensuring due process while keeping schools safe for all students and protecting both the Maine and Federal Constitutional rights of students and their families.

School counselors and school based clinicians (LCPCs) currently lack clear guidance on our legal obligations regarding immigration enforcement. This legislation establishes clear boundaries and requires the Attorney General to publish model policies by January 1, 2027. This clarity protects both students and school personnel.

All children deserve access to safe, supportive schools where they can learn without fear. They and their families should not have to keep children out of school for fear of their safety. LD 2106 ensures Maine's schools can serve this essential function while respecting proper legal procedures.

We urge the Committee to support LD 2106.

Respectfully,
The Maine School Counselor Association
Rebecca Edelman PhD, Past-Chair
Scott Harris, EdS. Advocacy Committee Chair

Maine Mental Health Counselors Association

Rebecca Edelman
Maine School Counselor Association
LD 2106

Written Testimony of the Maine School Counselor Association

In Support of LD 2106

Submitted to the Judiciary Committee

Thursday, January 29, 2026

We are writing this letter today on behalf of the Maine School Counselor Association (MESCA), which represents over 350 school counselors that are working in every corner of the Great State of Maine to ensure safe learning environments, and the Maine Mental Health Counselors Associations (MEMHCA), which represents over 2,000 licensed clinical professional counselors in the state of Maine. MESCA and MEMHCA strongly support LD 2106, as this legislation is essential to maintaining trust and safety between school counselors and the students we serve.

In order to have successful learning outcomes, students need to be in environments in which they can thrive. This cannot exist without safety, both physical and psychological. When students fear their information could be accessed without proper legal safeguards, they will not seek support for major life needs. This directly harms their well-being and academic success.

LD 2106 will not prevent law enforcement from doing their jobs. It simply requires valid judicial warrants for access to private student records and nonpublic school areas, ensuring due process while keeping schools safe for all students and protecting both the Maine and Federal Constitutional rights of students and their families.

School counselors and school based clinicians (LCPCs) currently lack clear guidance on our legal obligations regarding immigration enforcement. This legislation establishes clear boundaries and requires the Attorney General to publish model policies by January 1, 2027. This clarity protects both students and school personnel.

All children deserve access to safe, supportive schools where they can learn without fear. They and their families should not have to keep children out of school for fear of their safety. LD 2106 ensures Maine's schools can serve this essential function while respecting proper legal procedures.

We urge the Committee to support LD 2106.

Respectfully,
The Maine School Counselor Association
Rebecca Edelman PhD, Past-Chair
Scott Harris, EdS. Advocacy Committee Chair
Maine Mental Health Counselors Association