

Testimony in Support of LD 2106

An Act to Prohibit the Disclosure of Nonpublic Records Without Proper Judicial Review

Senator Carney, Representative Moonen, and members of the Judiciary Committee,

My name is Amanda Fagan. I am a Rockland resident, and I work in advancement for a nonprofit organization that is the largest provider of childcare in Knox County. I am here today to testify in strong support of LD 2106.

Childcare, schools, healthcare facilities, and libraries are not optional services; they are essential public goods. They exist so that children can learn and grow, workers can participate in the economy, families can remain healthy, and communities can function with dignity. These systems depend on trust. When fear enters them, they fail the very people they are meant to serve.

Over the past year, immigration enforcement practices have created widespread fear and instability in our communities. When parents are afraid to send their children to school or childcare, when people delay or avoid medical care, or when young people stop attending school altogether because of the threat of detention, the harm is systemic. This is not an individual problem; it is a collective one. Fear-driven enforcement undermines public health, fractures families, destabilizes the workforce, and inflicts long-term trauma on children. LD 2106 is a necessary response to these harms.

For decades, administrations of both parties acknowledged a basic truth: immigration enforcement at sensitive locations like schools, hospitals, and childcare facilities does not make communities safer. It makes them more vulnerable. Those long-standing protections existed because policymakers understood that access to education, healthcare, and basic services must never be contingent on immigration status. The rollback of these protections has had immediate and devastating consequences in Maine, eroding trust in public institutions and placing already marginalized communities under constant threat.

I have seen how quickly fear spreads and how deeply it affects participation, attendance, and community engagement. Workers are left unsure of their legal responsibilities. Families are forced to choose between safety and survival. This is not accidental; it is the predictable outcome of policies that prioritize punishment and surveillance over care and human dignity.

LD 2106 does not obstruct federal law. It affirms constitutional principles and sets clear boundaries by requiring a valid judicial warrant before immigration enforcement can occur at sensitive locations. Equally important, it removes the burden from individual workers by providing clear, statewide guidance. No childcare provider, educator, librarian, or healthcare worker should be forced to act as an extension of immigration enforcement or make high-stakes legal decisions under pressure.

This is about recognizing that the well-being of immigrants is inseparable from the well-being of our broader communities. When families are safe, workers can work. When children are in

school, communities are stronger. When people can access care and information without fear, everyone benefits. I urge you to support this bill and take a clear stand for the safety, dignity, and rights of all Maine people.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,
Amanda Fagan