

Written Testimony of Jaeheon Kim, Portland ME
In Support of LD 2106: An Act to Prohibit the Disclosure of Nonpublic Records
Without Proper Judicial Review Education and Cultural Affairs Committee

To Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and Members of the Judiciary Committee,

My name is Jaeheon Kim. I am a resident of Portland, Maine and a concerned member of my community. I am submitting this written testimony in strong support of LD 2106, in order to protect our critical public spaces from the fear and encroachment that my community and I feel by federal immigration enforcement.

Hospitals, libraries, daycares, and schools serve as critical pillars for supporting the health and wellbeing of thousands of families in Maine. But many in our communities, including myself, are afraid to access these spaces because of the recent indiscriminate and violent actions of ICE. Restriction of ICE's entry into these spaces without a judicial warrant allows the use of these spaces without fear from unlawful discrimination and harassment by federal immigration enforcement. Furthermore, by requiring the Attorney General to publish model policies and guidance for refusing unlawful entry by ICE into these spaces, our healers, educators, caretakers, and public servants can better protect the most vulnerable members of our communities with greater confidence and legal protection. Requiring ICE to provide proper judicial review does not interfere with lawful immigration enforcement, and helps provide clarity on interactions with federal immigration enforcement. As long as ICE continues to operate in Maine, protections for our community members need to be in place.

I hope that you will seriously consider the impact this bill can have to ensure that some of our most important community based institutions remain safe, accessible, and trusted spaces for all residents. I urge the committee to vote in support of LD 2106. Thank you so much for your time and consideration.

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