

Rachel Statham
Winthrop
LD 2106

Dear Members of the Judiciary Committee,

My name is Rachel Statham (from Winthrop, ME), and I am writing in strong support of LD 2106. I previously worked as a public librarian at two Maine libraries, where my core responsibility—and my deepest commitment—was to ensure that children had a safe, welcoming place in their community to learn, grow, and simply exist without fear.

Libraries are more than buildings with books. They are trusted public spaces where families seek information, connection, and stability. In my work, I regularly served children and parents who relied on the library as a refuge—after school, during school breaks, and in moments of personal or family stress. That sense of safety is essential. When families fear immigration enforcement in places like libraries, schools, and hospitals, they stop showing up. Children lose access to learning. Parents avoid seeking help. Entire communities withdraw.

The recent arrest of a parent at a Portland elementary school made clear how urgently Maine needs protections like those in LD 2106. No child should associate school—or a library—with the fear of family separation. No librarian, teacher, or healthcare worker should be forced into a crisis situation without clear guidance from the state.

LD 2106 is a commonsense public health and safety measure. It protects children, supports workers, and ensures that everyone in Maine can access essential services without fear.

Thank you for your time, your consideration, and your service to the people of Maine.