

Testimony in Support of LD2106

1/29/2026

Good afternoon, Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and Members of the Judiciary Committee,

My name is Aoife Dowd and I am a resident of Portland, Maine. I am writing today in support of LD 2106, which would restrict federal immigration enforcement from entering hospitals, libraries, daycares, and schools without a judicial warrant. Places offering critical resources to thousands of individuals and families in our state everyday must be kept safe!

I've written lots of testimony in the past few months and often this is the part where we're encouraged to share statistics or a personal story to convince you that this bill should pass. While I'm sure hearing some numbers or telling you about my experience as the child of immigrants may sway you a little. I'm going to ask you more plainly to consider the very clear moral and ethical questions asked in this bill. Should our most vulnerable community members be safe to learn, to read and to seek medical care? Should the children in our community be able to feel safe at school and know their parents won't be abducted while picking them up? Should families be able to go to the hospital and know they won't be detained? I think we all know innately in our hearts and humanity what the answer is. It is simply the right thing to do. Keeping these institutions of care safe from ICE keeps our communities safe.

We've seen online, in the media, and in our own lives that healthcare providers, teachers, and caregivers feel unsafe going to work, families are afraid to send their children to school, and people are afraid to seek medical care they need. These disruptions harm the public health and well-being of our entire community. LD 2106 would mitigate some of these impacts by prohibiting ICE from accessing sensitive locations that people rely on to meet their basic needs.

Additionally, many of our neighbors experiencing homelessness are also putting themselves at further risk due to fear of ICE. Libraries often serve as daytime warming shelters while also providing access to resources and information that can help unhoused people move out of homelessness. Hospitals and emergency rooms often serve as these individuals' only source of healthcare. If our unhoused neighbors are afraid to use these locations, they may stay outside or avoid treatment — putting their lives at risk. LD 2106 could remove a barrier to potentially life-saving services for individuals experiencing homelessness and poverty.

Please support LD 2106, and ensure that Maine's schools, libraries, healthcare centers, and daycares are a safe place for all who need them.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Aoife Dowd
Portland
LD 2106

Testimony in Support of LD2106
1/29/2026

Good afternoon, Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and Members of the Judiciary Committee,

My name is Aoife Dowd and I am a resident of Portland, Maine. I am writing today in support of

LD 2106, which would restrict federal immigration enforcement from entering hospitals, libraries, daycares, and schools without a judicial warrant. Places offering critical resources to thousands

of individuals and families in our state everyday must be kept safe!

I've written lots of testimony in the past few months and often this is the part where we're

encouraged to share statistics or a personal story to convince you that this bill should pass.

While I'm sure hearing some numbers or telling you about my experience as the child of

immigrants may sway you a little. I'm going to ask you more plainly to consider the very clear

moral and ethical questions asked in this bill. Should our most vulnerable community members

be safe to learn, to read and to seek medical care? Should the children in our community be

able to feel safe at school and know their parents won't be abducted while picking them up?

Should families be able to go to the hospital and know they won't be detained? I think we all

know innately in our hearts and humanity what the answer is. It is simply the right thing to do.

Keeping these institutions of care safe from ICE keeps our communities safe.

We've seen online, in the media, and in our own lives that healthcare providers, teachers, and

caregivers feel unsafe going to work, families are afraid to send their children to school, and

people are afraid to seek medical care they need. These disruptions harm the public health and

well-being of our entire community. LD 2106 would mitigate some of these impacts by

prohibiting ICE from accessing sensitive locations that people rely on to meet their basic needs.

Additionally, many of our neighbors experiencing homelessness are also putting themselves at

further risk due to fear of ICE. Libraries often serve as daytime warming shelters while also

providing access to resources and information that can help unhoused people move out of

homelessness. Hospitals and emergency rooms often serve as these individuals' only source of

healthcare. If our unhoused neighbors are afraid to use these locations, they may stay outside

or avoid treatment — putting their lives at risk. LD 2106 could remove a barrier to potentially

life-saving services for individuals experiencing homelessness and poverty.

Please support LD 2106, and ensure that Maine's schools, libraries, healthcare

centers, and
daycares are a safe place for all who need them.
Thank you for your time and consideration.