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Testimony of Representative Sophie Warren in Support of
L.D. 2106, An Act to Prohibit the Disclosure of Nonpublic Records Without
Proper Judicial Review
Before the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary

Good afternoon, Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and respected colleagues of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary. I'm Sophie Warren, fortunate to represent Scarborough House District 124. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of L.D. 2106.

L.D. 2106 is grounded in a simple principle: essential community spaces should be safe spaces for everyone. Requiring a judicial warrant before immigration enforcement can occur in places like schools, hospitals, and daycares is a reasonable legal safeguard that protects children, families, and public health and affirms the rule of law. No student, parent, or family should ever be afraid to seek medical care, attend school, or use their local library. Period.

I have heard from constituents across my community who are deeply concerned about the effect immigration enforcement in these settings has already had on accessing health and education. Parents have shared fears about taking their children to the doctor and about treating patients who are more scared about what will happen if ICE appears at the hospital than allowing themselves to focus on getting well.

Students and educators have expressed fear about the impact of ICE actions on the safety of their learning environments. Healthcare providers have raised concerns about patients delaying or avoiding care altogether. These are real, lived consequences, and they matter.

L.D. 2106 returns Maine to a status quo that worked well and existed for many years (approx. 2011-early 2017) as DHS policy, but not law. It is a legal, reasonable and meaningful safeguard to protect essential public spaces by requiring a judicial warrant before immigration enforcement can occur in these sensitive locations.

I urge the Committee to support L.D. 2106 and to stand with my community and communities across Maine who want more safety, less fear, and clear policy direction from their state government on the places that matter most.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.