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LD 2106

Greetings; When I arrived in Maine a little more than twenty years ago I was seeking refuge. I landed here hoping a clean break would help me be available for my small, growing family. I was appalled it included feet of snow. I was completely unprepared. Eventually I found myself living in an apartment complex. Almost all of my neighbors were just like me, with one major difference. I had been born in this country. The neighbors on one side are Ukrainian, the other side Iranian, behind me were Somalians and I'm sure other there were other countries represented that I was not honored to know about. My children grew up seeing hijabs, abayas, & niqabs as just another article of clothing that some people wore. My children are still in contact with and visit these friends when they are in the area. I have met the children some of those young people now have. They are family.

When community spaces where people go to learn, heal & be in sacred space together are violated by those seeking to cause harm we, as a community of rational & intelligent humans are required by the natural moral compass of knowing right from wrong to loudly and vehemently stand in the way.

I am appalled that we are even having to work on and discuss passing a bill such as LD 2106.. Every single human has the right to an education, healthcare and worship **FREE FROM HARM AND TERROR.**

I implore you, do your duty to protect your constituents better. Pass LD 2106 immediately.