

March 11th, 2026

Testimony in favor of LD 2176 “An Act to Create a Right to Judicial Review Under the Maine Civil Rights Act for Persons Erroneously Detained”

Honorable Chairs of the Judiciary Committee
Members of the Judiciary Committee

I am writing you testimony in favor of passing LD 2176 out of committee with an ought to pass, so that we can get it to Maine's House and Senate for a vote.

I just heard on Maine Calling a show about immigrant detention and the situation as described by Congresswoman Chellie Pingree and others is abysmal. People are getting kidnapped, locked up, and flown to unknown, inaccessible parts of the country with no way to let their families know where they are, or get in touch with legal representation.

LD 2176, aims to establish a legal framework for individuals who have been unlawfully detained during immigration enforcement actions. It seeks to ensure that these individuals can seek judicial review and recover damages under the Maine Civil Rights Act.

Almost all of the people detained by ICE and CBP have not been charged with any serious crimes. We are locking them up in life -threatening prisons with no due process, no legal representaiion, and often no way to get a hold of their families. This is beyond criminal.

My father escaped Germany in 1932 and he witnessed people being killed on the streets by the brown shirts. We appear to have them in our country now. Ill trained, and given “total immunity” by our Vice President, these immigration agents are acting out the worst impulses of our current Federal Government.

Please pass LD 2176 to protect the innocent children and families many of whom have come to the United States to escape the torture and political victimization they have been exposed to in their countries of origin.

Thank you,
Emanuel Pariser

Emanuel Pariser
Waterville
LD 2176

Here is the testimony I attached:
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