

January 28, 2026

Senator Anne Carney
Representative Amy Kuhn
Members of the Committee on Judiciary
Room 438
State House, Augusta, Maine 04330

Dear Chairman Carney, Chairman Kuhn, and Members of the Committee:

I am writing today as a Maine citizen, a nurse practitioner, and co-chair of the Legislative Committee of the Maine Nurse Practitioner Association. Today I am asking for your support of emergency bill **LD2106, An Act to Prohibit the Disclosure of Nonpublic Records Without Proper Judicial Review.**

As a primary care provider of adults in a rural, under-served community health care setting, it is crucial to advocate for our patients' privacy and confidentiality regardless of practice settings. Some of my colleagues in Southern Maine have shared alarming numbers of patients who are not keeping medical appointment out of fear of being accosted by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). These are people here legally awaiting immigration and asylum processes who entered lawfully and under extreme duress. The current climate with ICE kidnappings and detainments is the ultimate added injury to a very vulnerable population who have already been harmed in their countries of birth.

Missed appointments impact the management of chronic conditions and contribute to poor health outcomes. Threatened access to public schools, libraries, education classes adversely affect education. Workforce attendance suffers if daycare is a necessity for parents to earn a living and support their families, yet they are afraid to leave their children. Schools, libraries, and daycares have high numbers of students/children and low numbers of staff. It is imperative to provide judiciary protections from a governmental organization that clearly does not follow the law.

Again, I am asking for your support to vote ought to pass on LD2106, an emergency bill to protect Maine citizens and prohibit the sharing or disclosure of private information or allow access to non-public areas.

Sincerely,

Dorothy O'Keefe, AGNP-C
Co-chair, Maine Nurse Practitioner Association