

My name is Sarah English. I am a registered nurse working at Maine Medical Center and I'm a proud union nurse with the Maine State Nurses Association. I ask for your vote to pass this critical emergency legislation as quickly as possible.

Nurses need this bill to protect our patients - and ourselves - from ICE violence and intimidation in our workplaces.

Nurses reject ICE in our hospitals. So many of our patients, AND STAFF, are immigrants. Our hospital literally could not function without immigrants. They are doctors, nurses, housekeepers, phlebotomists, executives, transporters, educators, and many more.

Immigrants are NOT the threat to our safety — ICE is the threat. Let me give you just 1 example. Last week, one of my fellow Maine Med nurses was driving an immigrant co-worker to work early in the morning to ensure her safety. They happened to drive past an ICE raid, so my friend stopped to peacefully document, which is her constitutional right. ICE agents then intimidated her by following her vehicle, and while stopped at a red light they pulled up next to her and called her a "Karen" — and they laughed as they told her that they would arrest 3 more families that day, just because of her. All this happened at 6:30 in the morning, to 2 hospital employees who were just trying to get to work, so they can spend the rest of the day taking care of people.

This fear, violence, and intimidation is creating a public health crisis. It is unacceptable that hospital workers and patients fear being abducted and possibly even murdered in, or on their way to the workplace.

Nurses work towards a world built on care - NOT fear, NOT hatred, and NOT violence. Nurses will not stand by while ICE harms our community.

Today, we need your help.

Hospitals must remain safe places of healing and OFF LIMITS for immigration enforcement presence. No nurse should have to stand up to armed agents to protect a patient. And no nurse should have to worry that information entered into a patient's record will be turned over to ICE to harm that patient.

Thank you to Representative Sato for introducing this bill. We ask for all of your support to pass it. Our health, our civil rights, and our democracy itself are all at stake.