



Permanent Commission RACIAL, INDIGENOUS & TRIBAL POPULATIONS

Testimony in Support of LD 2106

An Act to Prohibit the Disclosure of Nonpublic Records Without Proper Judicial Review

January 29, 2026

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary, my name is Sam Zuckerman. I am the Policy Coordinator of the Permanent Commission on the Status of Racial, Indigenous, and Tribal Populations. I am here today on behalf of the Permanent Commission's Policy Committee to testify in support of LD 2106, "An Act to Prohibit the Disclosure of Nonpublic Records Without Proper Judicial Review."

Nobody should live in fear while going about their day-to-day life. But fear is now a reality for many communities in Maine. New Mainers and Mainers of color are living under constant threat of abduction by ICE agents who have been targeting schools, healthcare facilities, libraries, childcare facilities, and other locations where Mainers access essential resources and services.¹ They are detaining and abducting our neighbors in a manner that is without warrants or regard to the constitution right against unreasonable searches and seizures.² This bill will not solve the overall problem of ICE raids happening across the state, but it will provide at least a small layer of protection for vulnerable Mainers to be able to access much needed resources by preventing warrantless raids in schools, libraries, childcare centers, and healthcare facilities.

¹ <https://www.pressherald.com/2026/01/21/mother-of-4-detained-in-portland-as-immigration-enforcement-ramps-up-in-maine/>;
<https://truthout.org/articles/minneapolis-health-care-workers-are-organizing-to-defend-their-patients-from-ice/>;
<https://www.oregonlive.com/portland/2026/01/ice-detains-family-seeking-emergency-care-for-child-at-portland-hospital.html>;
<https://www.nbcwashington.com/news/local/trumps-crackdown-on-immigration-is-taking-a-toll-on-child-care-workers/4026524/>

² <https://wgme.com/news/local/maine-attorneys-claim-ices-warrantless-home-entries-violate-constitutional-rights>;
<https://apnews.com/video/ice-raid-on-minneapolis-home-blattant-constitutional-violation-attorney-says-2340a4faaceb4f8a9370001a2df64514>; <https://www.yahoo.com/news/articles/minnesota-raises-unprecedented-constitutional-issues-230412807.html>

New Mainers and Mainers of color already have difficulty accessing healthcare, education, and childcare in normal times.³ Children who are not fluent English speakers may struggle to make social connections, settle into school environments, and communicate medical needs.⁴ This makes consistent attendance at school and access to healthcare essential to prevent long term adverse outcomes. And new Mainers face increased rates of food insecurity. MaineHealth reported in 2025 that, based on intake screenings, 7% of English-speaking patients had faced food insecurity, while 20% of non-English speaking patients had.⁵ And a study of food insecurity disparities among immigrants found that noncitizens are 1.28 times more likely to face food insecurity than citizens born in the United States.⁶ One important food source for children whose families are facing food insecurity is school meals. And access to healthcare is essential to mitigate the worst impacts of being undernourished.

The threat of abduction by ICE is only serving to create further obstacles to accessing these essential services for our vulnerable neighbors. Our community partners have witnessed the real-time impact of how fear of ICE has prevented new Mainers and Mainers of color from sending their children to school or childcare or from getting needed healthcare. This then has a domino effect. If kids are home or family members are sick, people are less able to work. And if people are unable to work, that then creates further hardships and compounds issues like food and housing insecurity. No Mainer should struggle to access the basics that we all need to thrive. And the struggles Mainers face should not be further worsened by fear of abduction from the community centers they rely on. We urge you to vote in support of this bill to give new Mainers and Mainers of color some small piece of mind. Thank you for your attention. I'd be happy to answer any questions.

³ Permanent Commission on the Status of Racial, Indigenous, and Tribal Populations. 2024. State of Racial Disparities Report. https://www.pcritp.me/sites/pcritp.me/files/inline-files/State_of_Disparities.pdf

⁴ Permanent Commission on the Status of Racial, Indigenous, and Tribal Populations. Social Drivers of Health Dashboard. <https://pcritp.me/sdoh>

⁵ Data from the MaineHealth Inpatient Food Security Questionnaire, Jan-Dec 2025.

⁶ Sharareh, Nasser et. al. (2023). *Food Insecurity Disparities Among Immigrants in the U.S.* AJPM Focus. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2773065423000500>