

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and Honorable members of the Judiciary Committee,

My name is Anna Durand, I have been a successful small business owner in Bar Harbor for the last 34 years. I serve on the Boards of several local non-profits as well as serving on one of my town government boards. I am here to urgently request that you vote in favor of LD 2106 not in my civic or business capacity but in my capacity as a mother of four. I cannot even imagine the pain and terror that every New Mainer mother and father must experience every day, as they consider the very real possibility that as they bring their children to or from school, childcare, the doctor, or the neighborhood library they risk being abducted, violently arrested, or even killed in front of their child. And so the decisions must be agonizing: keep the child home from school and diminish their education? Keep the child home from childcare and lose a paycheck? Keep the child away from the library and limit their exposure to books, free programs, and their wider community? Keep the child away from the doctor and risk their life?

LD 2106 is one small way that Maine's legislators can begin to address these very real fears. Requiring a judicial warrant to enter these spaces seems pretty basic. Providing clarity around what they are allowed to share and who may enter a particular space does a service to Maine's hardworking teachers, childcare providers, library staff, and healthcare workers. I hope you will support the rights of all Mainers to be secure in the civic spaces of our state, support the rights of Maine workers to the relief of legal direction and immigration enforcement, and the rights of mothers and fathers to access the places which keep our communities strong and whole.

Thank you for your consideration,
Anna Durand