



Jan 29, 2026

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

In Support of LD 2106: An Act to Prohibit the Disclosure of Nonpublic Records Without Proper Judicial Review

My name is Rachel Chaisson. I am here today as a Maine resident, a mother of three, and an advocate for children and families, and as the owner and leader of three early childhood education centers serving more than 200 children every day, supported by over 50 educators.

I am here today in support of LD 2106.

For more than twenty years, I have spent my mornings in early childhood classrooms during drop-off. I've watched parents kneel on the floor to help children out of their coats, wipe tears from sleepy faces, and offer reassurance. I've seen the lingering hug—the moment when a mother hesitates, knowing this separation is necessary, but still hard. Within minutes, those same children are in search of their best buddy—singing and dancing, building with blocks, listening to stories, and settling into their day—because they feel safe.

That safety is not accidental.

A classroom is more than tables and chairs, whiteboards, and learning materials. It is an intentionally curated safe space designed to protect the emotional and physical well-being of our most vulnerable citizens—built through trust, predictability, and care.

Young children do not understand uniforms, authority, or legal distinctions. They understand tone, disruption, and fear. When enforcement activity enters a child care or school setting—especially without clear legal authority—it can fracture trust in an instant and disrupt the environment educators work tirelessly to create.

A child's safe space is not the place for law enforcement action. Children should view law enforcement as heroes—people they run to for safety—not people they associate with fear or disruption.

LD 2106 provides clarity where confusion exists right now. It ensures that schools, early childhood programs, hospitals, and libraries remain spaces where people can access essential services without fear, and where staff are not placed in the position of making legal judgments they are not trained to make. It reinforces due process while allowing educators and caregivers to focus on their work.

This bill does not prevent law enforcement from doing their jobs. It simply establishes appropriate boundaries around sensitive places where children and vulnerable individuals are present.

Maine values community, fairness, and care for one another. Protecting the spaces where children learn and grow reflects those values. Supporting LD 2106 means supporting stability, trust, and the well-being of Maine's families.

I respectfully urge the committee to support LD 2106. Thank you for your time and for the work you do on behalf of our state.

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