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LD 1259

I support LD 1259. We can not stand for the rounding up of our neighbors and sending them to a concentration camp. This presidential administration and ICE have no concern for due process or our communities. We must limit their access to the people in our state. Local police should not be involved in this rounding up of people. I'm not sure I've ever believed in "community police" in the country that I've grown up in, but if the State would like to preserve what little image is left of police as trusted community members then surely the state should support this bill.

Everyone should be opposed to involving local police forces in this concentration camp scheme that President Trump has devised. He has found the one law enforcement agency that is politically expedient and willing to be his secret police and he is using them to that edge. There are images and videos of conditions in CECOT now. There is no longer an excuse to be ignorant as to what is happening there. This rounding up of people will not stop with just one brand of a villainized neighbor. Right now their efforts are supposedly focused on "immigrants" but that's turned out to just mean anyone who's vaguely the right shade of brown and/or politically dissident. Trump and ICE are already targeting American born citizens for deportation and birthright citizenship as a concept. We can not allow our communities to be those that are targeted. We cannot be torn apart by those who have taken a vow to protect and serve.

There is broad opposition to local police forces that have already joined in these 287(g) agreements. Monmouth community members were successful with their efforts and have kept their police out of this agreement and secured their community. There are protests in Wells hoping to achieve the same thing.

Police entering into 287(g) agreements do not make us safer. If the stated goal of police is to make communities safer, and to protect and serve, entering into 287(g) agreements will make it impossible for that goal to be accomplished.

For the safety and lives of all Mainers, please support LD1259.