

Nancy Galland
Rockland
LD 1971

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Greetings Representative Dhalac, Senator Talbot Ross, and other sponsors of LD1971, and members of the Judiciary Committee

My name is Nancy Galland and I live in Rockland, Maine.

Thank you for this opportunity to support LD1971, An Act to Protect Workers in This State by Clarifying the Relationship of State and local Law Enforcement Agencies with Federal Immigration Authorities.

I have to tell you that I was shocked when I read and re-read this Bill. How could it be that this wasn't already a law?

The details in LD1921 are so clearly fundamental, so essential to ordinary human rights, and therefore necessary for the orderly conduct and administration of lawful actions on the part of law enforcement at the federal, state and local level, that it will be a travesty if it isn't enacted.

Right now today, a member of my community in Rockland is being detained on unknown charges by ICE, thousands of miles from home. The story of the role ICE played, as told in our local paper, the Midcoast Villager, contains violations of almost every one of the protections LD1921 describes. It took my breath away to think how his fate would have been so different if this were law already.

These are not ordinary times.

Lawmakers, we depend on you for keeping our country operating with justice and fairness to all.

Please pass LD1971 into law to protect the people who invest their skills, time, and energy to sustain reliable standards of living in our towns, cities, and homes.

Thank you.