

Adrienne Horne
Appleton
LD 1971

Testimony in support of

LD 1971: An Act to Protect Workers in This State by Clarifying the Relationship of State and Local Law Enforcement Agencies with Federal Immigration Authorities

To: Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee

From: Adrienne Horne

May 19, 2025

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

My name is Adrienne Horne, I am a resident of Appleton, and I am submitting testimony in favor of LD 1971: An Act to Protect Workers in This State by Clarifying the Relationship of State and Local Law Enforcement Agencies with Federal Immigration Authorities

This bill would protect the constitutional rights of workers in Maine by prohibiting law enforcement from targeting members of our community for immigration purposes while banning law enforcement from complying with constitutionally dubious ICE detainer requests solely for immigration enforcement purposes.

In the past few months, I have personally heard about multiple instances of local law enforcement detaining people on their way to work and handing them over to federal immigration authorities, including a minor, an asylum seeker, and migrant workers. This has stoked fear in local communities and across the region. People are becoming more cautious of living in, working in, or traveling to Maine, and this threatens the vibrancy of our communities as well as the state of our economy. On May 8th, Massachusetts immigration attorney Kira Garagin told Maine Public that she is advising her clients and the companies that employ them not to travel to Maine for work because of the rising number of abductions of lawfully present workers by federal immigration enforcement. Local law enforcement cooperation with federal immigration enforcement is already starting to erode trust in public safety in the state and impact the number of workers willing to come to Maine - workers we need to keep our state running smoothly.

The American Civil Liberties Union has called ICE detainers "legally dubious" practices that "exist outside of due process protections" and "violates Fourth Amendment protections." Local law enforcement should not be taking on work that has questionable legality while increasing fear in local communities and decreasing the state's workforce. It's an incredibly dangerous precedent to set to ignore constitutional rights for anyone in our community. LD 1971 would protect Maine workers, protect local officers and departments from lawsuits, and protect all of our constitutional rights.

I urge you to vote in favor of LD 1971. Thank you for your consideration and for all the work you do for our state,

Adrienne Horne