

Trudy Miller
Northport
LD 1971

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

Our names are Trudy Miller and Robert Fargey. We live in Northport, and we are writing today to testify in favor of both LD 1259 and LD 1971.

Too frequently we read about US immigration agents detaining and deporting (or in some cases rendering) people with little or no reason for knowing if they are here legally. We know from Supreme Court rulings that to date many have not been accorded due process required by the Constitution. Even worse many are being sent to what amounts to life imprisonment in CECOT in El Salvador which is likely a violation of international human rights law and which is definitely a moral abomination regardless of their legal status.

We are ashamed that our federal government is acting this way, and we do not want to support this behavior. We are heartened by the fact the separation of powers between state and federal authorities as defined in the Constitution means that our state law enforcement officers need not cooperate in immigration enforcement. We are also proud of the fact that Maine is known for independence and for in many ways devolving power and responsibility to the lowest appropriate authority giving each of us a stronger stake in our government. We urge you to exercise these traditions such that we are not complicit in what is sadly lawlessness at the federal level. We note that even if we did want to enforce immigration laws, Maine has neither the manpower nor other resources to do so. Please draw a bright line around Maine between our law enforcement and ICE and CBP.

We strongly urge you to vote YES on both LD 1259 and LD 1971.

Respectfully,

Trudy Miller and Robert Fargey