

Hello Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn & honorable members of the Judiciary Committee. My name is Roslyn Reid, I live in Trenton, & I wish to submit my testimony in favor of LD 1259. (I can't appear in person or Zoom because I am at the polls in a local election today.)

Police departments in Maine are stretched thin. Many towns like mine do not have one & must rely on county sheriffs. Our sheriff's office covers 16 towns (some on islands) plus unorganized territories. These are spread all over the county, an area of 2351 square miles. It should be evident that asking our department to assume additional duties on behalf of the federal government—for who knows how long—would reduce the safety of everyone living here.

I live near one of the most visited national parks in the US. Tourism, Maine's biggest industry, is heavily dependent on immigrant labor. They pay taxes on their wages & tips, & spend money on local services & products (sales tax). Common sense should tell us that it is unlikely a criminal immigrant would come here for a summer job. Furthermore, some immigrants remain here to start their own businesses. That means more hiring & more tax revenues! It's important for the legislature to value people like these for the future growth of Maine. Therefore, I urge you to vote in favor of LD 1259.

Thank you for your time. I'm happy to answer any questions that you have.