

James Bilancia
Brewer
LD 2106

To the Members of the Judiciary Committee,

I am a U.S. Army Military Police veteran, a former veteran local law enforcement officer in Maine, and currently a veteran public school educator in my area. I support professional law enforcement and public safety including proper enforcement of our immigration laws. However, in too many recent incidents in Maine and around the country we are seeing that ICE has been politically misused and is operating in ways that do not align with appropriate police procedure around best practices in communication, supervision, command and control, de-escalation, properly and carefully focused enforcement with the right priorities, properly and legally warranted searches and seizures upon judicial review, and appropriate coordination and cooperation with local law enforcement as they conduct their operations. I would therefore support LD 2106 and other such appropriate measures and efforts at the state level to do what we can to ensure that abuses in this area of enforcement are prevented as much as possible and to encourage the federal authorities at DHS and ICE to correct many of their current policies and practices which in all too many instances are causing deep concerns and problems in our communities rather than alleviating and solving them as should be the goal of any law enforcement agency at any level. Thank you.