

Dylan Moore

Bangor

LD 2106

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My name is Dylan Moore, from Bangor, Maine. I am testifying in support of LD 2106, An Act to Prohibit the Disclosure of Nonpublic Records Without Proper Judicial Review.

ICE agents have been acting as armed thugs throughout society, creating a pervasive atmosphere of fear. We have seen this happen in Minnesota and now they have come to Maine, hoping to inspire fear and submission. This is not the way it should feel to live in the United States of America.

The fear is especially great for immigrants, whether undocumented, asylum seekers, green card holders, etc., but also affects all people of color. It affects people who are exercising their first amendment rights-- the most foundational rights in the Constitution, without which our entire exercise of democracy is meaningless. They create the atmosphere of martial law.

We have evidence that ICE agents undergo little vetting and may not undergo background checks. Look at the case of Laura Jedeed, a journalist who was able to get hired as an ICE agent after a six-minute pre-interview at a job fair and nothing else. Add to this the large bounties and the supposed "immunity" for violent acts, and we have nothing more than bullies with a blank check to terrorize people, including children, at will.

Because of this, it is right and appropriate to bar ICE from schools, hospitals and healthcare facilities, daycares, and libraries if they do not have a judicial warrant. These are places where people must be able to go with the expectation of safe and normal treatment, especially children and people who are sick. They are not hunting grounds.