

Kerry Read
Paris
LD 2106

LD 2106 "An Act to Prohibit the Disclosure of Nonpublic Records Without Proper Judicial Review"

Senator Anne Carney, Representative Amy Kuhn and members of the Judiciary Committee,

I am testifying in support of LD 2106. As a member of the Maine Unitarian Universalist State Action Network (MUUSAN), a person of faith, neighbor and friend, I believe in the worth and dignity of all people. I believe that democracy is only as strong as our conviction and the actions we take to preserve the rule of law and protect and serve the most vulnerable among us.

My work as a hospice volunteer takes me into many nursing homes and care centers. Perhaps I've seen your mother, father, beloved family member, friend or life-long neighbor there being cared for by people of many shades of brown, many accents, many places of origin. These caregivers are Mainers, trained health care professionals, tending to your loved ones and providing for their own families, in the midst of mass deportations, family separations, and, yes, even state sanctioned murder. Many are, justifiably, afraid to go to work, send their children to school, or even go to the grocery store.

This is not what democracy looks like. We do not want to live in an environment reeking of fear. It's not healthy, for any of us.

I urge you to support LD 2106.