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My name is Krysten Townsend, and I am the assistant director at a childcare center in Portland.

I am here because I care about the safety of the children in my care, my staff, and the members of my community. I strongly oppose the presence of ICE in our schools and childcare centers.

Schools are supposed to be a safe place for children to learn and grow, regardless of what is happening outside our doors. ICE has ended the lives of citizens. They are increasing the violence in this country, not removing it. My children do not deserve to be afraid. My staff do not deserve to feel afraid. This is going to affect children for years to come. ICE is going to disrupt education of students, negatively impacting their development. Safe schools support all students, regardless of immigration status. For the sake of the safety of our students' I urge you to keep ICE out of schools. Please keep schools a safe place for children.