



# 2019 MIRC POLICY PRIORITY PLATFORM

## TOP ISSUES IMPACTING IMMIGRANT COMMUNITIES\*

Workforce Development  
Expansion of Adult Education  
Reinstating Benefits: MAINECARE/GA/SNAP and TANF  
Credentialing /Licensing  
Housing/Youth  
Child Care/Interpretation Needs

## MISSION STATEMENT:

To improve the legal, social and economic conditions experienced by Maine's immigrants - enhancing their lives while strengthening Maine - through advocacy, information sharing and collaboration both through and among our member organizations

\*As set out by MIRC members and community input

# ENHANCING LIVES AND STRENGTHENING MAINE IMMIGRANTS

## 60 Member Organizations!

MIRC members have a shared vision for immigrant rights. MIRC recognizes that member organizations have priorities beyond that shared vision. At strategic moments like this, choosing to leverage the power of MIRC as a whole will allow us to join our organizations into a unified voice that can educate decision makers at the local, state, and federal level.

Tracked Bills within our priorities several bills that would advance lives of immigrants:

- o \*LR 342: Benefits eligibility "An Act To Amend the General Assistance Laws Governing Eligibility and Reimbursement"
- o LD 647: "An Act To Attract, Educate and Retain New State Residents to Strengthen the Workforce"
- o LD 532: "Resolve, Directing Professional Licensing and Certification Boards to Study the Barriers to Obtaining Professional Licensing and Certification"
- o LD 718: "An Act To Provide Increased Support for Adult Basic Education and Workforce Development"
- o LD 768: "Resolve: To Establish the Commission to Research the Economic Disparities of Racial and Ethnic Populations."
- o LD 769: "Resolve, to Direct the Commissioner of Professional and Financial Regulation to Create a Working Group to Study Credentialing Skilled Individuals with Foreign Credentials."
- o \*LR 1676 "An Act to Enhance the Long-term Stability of Certain At-risk Youth"

### **BILLS MIRC IS OPPOSING**

- o LD 186 "Resolution, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Ensure That Voting Rights Belong Only to Citizens"
- o \*LR 1700 "An Act To Facilitate Compliance with Federal Immigration Law by State and Local Government Entities"

**Other Bills** that MIRC members are working on which are on workplace policies disproportionately affecting immigrants and people of color and women:

- o LD 278: "An Act Regarding Pay Equality Screen reader support enabled."
- o LD 369: "An Act to Support Healthy Workplaces and Healthy Families by Providing Earned Paid Sick Leave to Certain Employees"
- o LR 33: Paid family and medical leave.

### **\*NOT YET PRINTED**