

## **National Briefing New England: Maine: Limit To Questions On Citizenship**

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### **Body**

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Gov. John Baldacci has signed an executive order **limiting** the circumstances in which state employees can ask about the immigration status of residents seeking services. The order allows employees to ask about the status only in specific situations: when such disclosure is required by law, for example, or when the resident is suspected of unlawful activity other than being in the country illegally. Mr. Baldacci, a Democrat, signed the order after meetings with social service, civil rights and community organizations. The sessions were held to help ease relations between the groups and state officials after Border Patrol agents swept through stores, restaurants and a homeless shelter in Portland in January. Katie Zezima (NYT)

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