



# Maine Sheriffs' Association

*"One Team, One Mission"*

Sheriff Troy Morton, President

Sheriff William King, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President, Sheriff Dale Lancaster, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President – Sheriff Barry Curtis, Secretary –  
Sheriff Todd Brackett, Treasurer – Sheriff Kevin Joyce, Immediate Past President –  
Sheriff Joel Merry, Past President-at-Large - Mary-Anne LaMarre, Executive Director

---

March 2, 2020

## **LD 1492 – An Act to Reform Drug Sentencing Laws**

Senator Dechambault, Representative Warren, and distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety,

My name is Timothy Carroll and I am the Sheriff of Knox County. I am here on behalf of the Maine Sheriffs Association to provide testimony in support of **LD 1492 – An Act to Reform Drug Sentencing Laws**.

LD 1492 is an excellent example of Maine lawmakers working collaboratively with Maine sheriffs to responsibly evaluate current statute pertaining to trafficking and furnishing scheduled drugs. We recognize the motivation behind these proposed reforms are in the best interest of Maine citizens and we value the research and investment of those who worked diligently to present these reasonable changes.

The membership of the MSA's legislative policy committee evaluated each provision of this bill and concluded that we can support this bill almost in its entirety. We collectively believe that Section 11's reference to Fentanyl **must not** be increased from 200 milligrams to 3.5 grams.

Fentanyl is much stronger than most other opioids. The Center for Disease Control reports that Fentanyl is fifty times more potent than heroin and one hundred times more potent than morphine. Ingesting just two to three milligrams of Fentanyl can be fatal. It is clear to the members of the MSA that possessing 200 milligrams of this powerful opioid is an indicator of intent to illegally distribute this illicit substance.

Maine Sheriffs' LPC unanimously supports this bill with the removal of the increase in allowable amounts of Fentanyl. We urge all members of this committee to support this bill with this noted modification. I would be pleased to answer any questions you might have.

Sincerely,

Sheriff Tim Carroll  
Maine Sheriffs' Association