



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

No. 895

S.P. 387

In Senate, February 28, 2023

An Act to Establish Culturally Informed Reentry or Reintegration Halfway Houses

Reference to the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator ROTUNDO of Androscoggin.
Cosponsored by Representatives: CLOUTIER of Lewiston, CRAVEN of Lewiston.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 34-A MRSA §1402, sub-§10-C** is enacted to read:

3 **10-C. Culturally informed reentry and reintegration halfway houses.** The
4 commissioner shall establish and operate or subcontract with an appropriate entity to
5 establish and operate culturally informed halfway houses for persons who have not attained
6 21 years of age to provide housing services, referrals to community-based services and
7 supports and education and employment resources. The operation of halfway houses
8 established or subcontracted under this subsection may be funded from resources available
9 to the department, including any public or private grants, donations and other funding
10 received for this purpose. Grants, donations and other funding received by the department
11 for the purposes of this subsection must be placed in a separate nonlapsing account and
12 may be used only for the purposes of this subsection and in accordance with any restrictions
13 placed on the funds by the source of the grant, donation or funding.

14 **SUMMARY**

15 This bill directs the Commissioner of Corrections to establish and operate culturally
16 informed halfway houses for persons under 21 years of age to provide housing services,
17 referrals to community-based services and supports and education and employment
18 resources. It allows the commissioner to subcontract with an entity for the establishment
19 and operation of the halfway houses.