



Christian Civic League of Maine

Senator Carney, Representative Harnett and members of the Maine Committee on Judiciary, I am Mike McClellan, Policy Director for the Christian Civic League of Maine. The Christian Civic League of Maine envisions a state and nation where God is honored, religious freedom flourishes, families thrive, and life is cherished. We believe a Biblical approach works in life and in our governance. I write this testimony in support of LD 1888, An Act To Amend the Laws Affecting Sex Offenders and Petitions for Child Custody. Representative Gramlich is the sponsor.

We appreciate the sponsor's work to bring this legislation forward that seeks to tighten and make safer, children who are at risk due to actions not their own. Key to this is we know that childhood sexual abuse is real, happens and affects girls more than boys. We also know that the abuser often can be someone known to the family. For these reasons and others it is important that Maine have the highest standards for laws that protect our children.

CCL Maine asks you to work to make sure that children are protected in these challenging situations, that they are put first above the desires of adults and that as it would appear this legislation looks at other states, we ensure Maine state law will trump and apply to all situations in Maine. This discussion and this law appears challenging and we encourage you to take the time necessary to get this correct.

Thank you for your time and consideration today. Know that many are hopeful of your actions in 2022 and are praying for you and your families. God bless,

Mike

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Policy Director

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