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I am writing this letter because I am a firm believer in reinstating parole in the State of Maine. I have seen first hand how far some of the long time residents of the Maine State Prison and Maine Correctional Center have come.

While I am not serving enough time to be eligible for parole if reinstated I still feel those who have been truly rehabilitated like the residents I have met during the time and years I have spent in the Maine Department of Corrections.

I am currently in college here at MSP and also when I was at MCC and what I saw at both facilities was the determination of many residents ~~with~~^{with} the drive to further their education and better themselves intellectually and morally.

That determination is not limited to college and the education department. I have seen residents who have bettered themselves through programming, work opportunities, and religious and/or spiritual services.

These individuals I am talking about deserve a second chance at life. They have shown their dedication at bettering themselves to staff, fellow residents, and themselves.