

Martha Wilkins
Greene
LD 178

Dear members of Maine Legislative,

I would like to enter a personal testimony in support of LD178. Maine's prison system is up and coming, we all see this. However, it does not mean that the system is perfect. We are spending millions of taxpayers' dollars on incarceration, instead using a small portion of the funds on parole. If Maine would reinstate parole, we would save money but also increase the number of taxpayers contributing to the state of Maine through employment. The men and women who would be eligible for parole would be the most upstanding model inmates. Those who have proven to be rehabilitated with a strong desire to live life on the right side of the street. To be honest, I am sick of seeing all of the funds going into fancy prisons when many of the people could thrive in our communities while keeping Maine safe. I struggle to see the sense in not trying something that many states are doing. Maine has improved their prison systems but have not budged on offering parole. Please look past decade old mistakes and move forward into a brighter future for ALL of Maine.

Respectfully, Martha Wilkins