

Robert Bach
North Haven
LD 178

Dear Senator Beebe-Center, Representative Salisbury, and members of the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee,

My name is Dr. Robert Bach and I am a resident of North Haven Maine.

I am writing to you today to show my absolute support for LD 178 and the effort to re-establish parole in Maine.

I have been a volunteer for the hospice team at the Maine State for the past ten years which was started by Kandyce Powell RN many years ago

I have been very impressed by the men's dedication, transparency, and eagerness to further their education

These are men are ready to lead productive lives.

Many are majoring in the social sciences and want to help the cause of restorative justice.

The following poem may convey that passing this bill is the "right thing to do"

Prison Volunteers

The hospice team is welcoming
Their commitment serious

In a monastic tradition
They learn to live with the self

Stripped of all material things
Stripped of any social status

These men decide to transform
Their time used for redemption

I find humility and honesty
I find transparency and kindness

Their teacher, Kandyce, empowers
No one left in a shell

Discussions deep, questions abound
"What do you think? they ask

Friendships deepen, a bonding forms
I leave with a hug, I love these men

A shining light of restorative justice
The world needs to know

Your friend,
Bob

Respectfully,

Bob

Robert Bach MD FACS MDiv