

STATE OF MAINE

KATHRYN SLATTERY
DISTRICT I

CHRISTOPHER ALMY
DISTRICT V

JAQUELINE SARTORIS
DISTRICT II

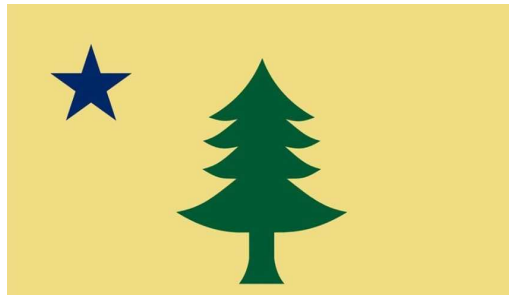
NATASHA IRVING
DISTRICT VI

NEIL MCLEAN
DISTRICT III

ROBERT GRANGER
DISTRICT VII

MAEGHAN MALONEY
DISTRICT IV

TODD R. COLLINS
DISTRICT VIII



MAINE PROSECUTORS ASSOCIATION

AARON FREY
ATTORNEY GENERAL

April 12, 2023

Senator Baldacci, Representative Meyer, and Honorable Members of the Health and Human Services Co, my name is Maeghan Maloney, I am the District Attorney for Kennebec and Somerset Counties and the President of the Maine Prosecutors Association (“MPA”) and I am submitting this written testimony in support of LD 1204 as amended, An Act to Improve the Health of Maine Residents by Closing Coverage Gaps in the MaineCare Program for Incarcerated Persons.

Monday night I had dinner with a local physician who works in a Maine county jail. She explained to me why Maine needed to apply for a section 1115 federal waiver for MaineCare expansion. She explained to me how much could be done to improve the continuity of care if only those who were incarcerated did not lose their MaineCare. In her words, by giving incarcerated people the tools they need for health care success, they will be more likely to live successful lives in our community. I agree.

In addition, I have witnessed the ever increasing county budgets during my ten years as district attorney. These county increases are passed on to the municipalities and paid with property taxes. The largest driver of county budget increases is the cost of medical care for people incarcerated in county jail. I know the property tax payers of Kennebec and Somerset counties cannot continue to pay these property tax increases.

This bill is the solution. This bill will single handily reduce property taxes across our great state. And this bill will provide better health care for incarcerated Mainers who will soon be living in our communities again.

The MPA is grateful to Speaker Talbot-Ross for having the vision to introduce this bill. The MPA believes this legislation is an example of how we can make significant positive changes to our state while relieving the property tax burden.

Thank you for your time and I am happy to answer any questions.

Sincerely,

/s/Maeghan Maloney

Maeghan Maloney
District Attorney