Sarah Johnson Sanford LD 1863

Testimony of Sarah Johnson IN SUPPORT OF LD 1863

An Act to Facilitate the Provision of Medically Appropriate Levels of Care for Clients of Correctional Facilities

Representative Sachs and Honorable Members of the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee,

My name is Sarah Johnson. I am a Software Support Specialist and I live in Sanford. I am writing in support of LD 1863 which would expand compassionate release in Maine.

As is the case across the nation, Maine has a growing elderly population in its correctional facilities. Our sick and elderly incarcerated residents pose little to no risk to public safety. Providing proper medical care is becoming more expensive, and medical staffing and resources harder to come by as they are everywhere.

Allowing critical care patients to be with family and trained medical professionals as they approach the end of life is compassionate, and affords families and patients the dignity and care that we all deserve.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this bill. Sarah Johnson