



## Restorative Justice Project Maine

8 January 2024

Senator Beebe-Center, Representative Salisbury, and esteemed members of the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice;

My name is Arthur C. Jones and I live in Belfast. I am writing in support of LD 1978, “An Act to Enact the Reentry Success and Earned Time Act.” Since 2006 I have been involved with the Restorative Justice Project Maine. In the past I held numerous positions, both high and low, with both the New Jersey and Rhode Island Departments of Corrections and have spent 36 years in public service.

I know the value of this bill, what it will do to uplift morale and give offenders hope for a second chance, as well as provide an effective behavioral management tool for the Department of Corrections.

Commissioner Randy Liberty and the Department of Corrections can further their mission of “Making our communities safer by reducing harm through intervention, empowering change and restoring lives” in awarding work and good time credit to offenders. They have done a good job getting started with the Supervised Community Confinement Program (SCCP), a successful pre-release prisoner reentry program which includes earning work and good time credit.

Across the country, 33 states have adopted similar earned-time legislation\*. It is past time for Maine to do the same.

**Restorative Justice Project Maine urges you to support LD 1978.**

Sincerely,

Arthur C. Jones, Ph.D  
Professor, Criminal Justice Consultant and member,  
Legislative Committee, Restorative Justice Project Maine  
18 Waldo Ave  
Belfast, Maine 04915  
foxtrot1@roadrunner.com  
207-323-5515

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\* <https://www.ncsl.org/civil-and-criminal-justice/state-good-time-and-earned-time-laws>

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