

January 23, 2024

Senator Carney, Representative Moonen, and Members of the Judiciary Committee:

My name is Wendy Page and I am submitting testimony in support of LD 2084, An Act to Provide Funding for Essential Services for Victims of Crimes.

I support survivors emotionally and help them navigate the criminal justice/civil justice process. If this funding goes away we will lose staff, reduce hours that we can assist survivors. Sexual Assault prevention is vastly important as we want help to bring awareness and educate those about this topic.

Our agency works very closely with PTLA services and our center assists helping individuals get connected. VOCA funds being cut will drastically impact our center with staff and hours. We cover three of the biggest counties in Maine and with our already limited staff it would just make the situation worse than it is already.

Thank the committee and ask them to support/vote in favor of the bill.