

Jill Boyce
Portland
LD 2085

Dear Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee,

My name is Jill Boyce and I support LD 2085, an act to update Maine's Domestic Violence and Stalking Laws. Over the course of 2023, I have witnessed a friend be continually harassed via technology by someone she obtained a Protection from Harassment (PFH) order against in April 2023.

Regardless of my friend obtaining a PFH order, there has been little done to protect her and her daughters from victimization of harassment via technology due to the fact that the current statute does not include updated verbiage to protect against the measures people can take with technology. She has reported multiple harassment incidents that occurred via technology, that were dismissed due to lack of evidence. Some of these incidents include but are not limited to: using an app to change phone numbers to display her number on caller ID then calling people under the guise of her name, incessant calling from blocked numbers, accessing online bank information, and defaming her on the social media of her workplace. This has left her and her daughters in a constant state of unease.

No person or family should have to endure the emotional harm and distress related to harassments via technology. I believe the passing of LD 2085 to include verbiage related to technology is necessary to help protect those such as my friend and fill the gaps in our current system.

Please consider my testimony for the passing of LD 2085 to include verbiage related to technology. Thank you for your time.