

David Hayward
Skowhegan
LD 2283

Maine Judiciary Committee
Maine State House
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Members of the Maine Judiciary Committee,
I am writing to express my concerns regarding LD 2283, specifically its §4805 provision on Emergency Crisis Intervention Orders. As a concerned citizen, I am deeply committed to upholding our fundamental rights, including the right to due process.

While I understand the importance of addressing situations where there is an imminent and significant danger of harm, I am concerned that §4805 may unnecessarily duplicate existing laws, particularly the Yellow Flag Law. The Yellow Flag Law already allows for emergency intervention orders in situations where individuals pose a threat to themselves or others. It incorporates important safeguards to protect due process rights, such as requiring a judicial hearing within a specified timeframe and providing notice to the respondent.

Given that the Yellow Flag Law already serves the purpose of addressing emergency situations while safeguarding due process rights, I question the necessity of introducing additional provisions like those outlined in LD 2283. Duplicative laws risk confusion and inconsistency in their application, potentially leading to unintended consequences and violations of individuals' rights.

Therefore, I urge you to carefully consider whether the proposed §4805 provision of LD 2283 is redundant in light of existing laws such as the Yellow Flag Law. Instead of introducing potentially duplicative legislation, I encourage you to focus on strengthening and improving the implementation of existing laws to better address the needs of our communities while upholding due process rights.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I trust that you will carefully consider the implications of LD 2283 and make decisions that prioritize the protection of our fundamental rights.

Sincerely,
David Hayward