

To Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee,

Re: LD 18

Date: January 27, 2025

I OPPOSE LD 18

Dear Members of the Committee,

MY name is Michael Chase, first I would like to thank the Committee for taking the time to hear my testimony. Also, I would like to thank the MSP NAACP Branch for bring this important matter to the attention of the prison community.

For the first time in my 25 years in prison, I am extremely concerned about my health care service. I am a chronic care inmate with diabetes, who has a host of health issues. And this bill LD 18 will seriously affect my wanting to get medical attention. LD 18 would wipe me clean with how many times I go to medical for insulin shots and so on. I have always said we are residents until we are not, and that's why I have returned my language to that of the inmate status. This bill should serve as a reminder of how Maine DOC feels about the people in their custody.

LD 18 aught not pass