

Testimony for the 132nd Session of the Maine Legislature  
Joint Committee for Criminal Justice and Public Safety  
Public Hearing February 10, 2025

**In favor of LD 268: An Act to Restore Sentencing Discretion to the Judiciary by removing Mandatory Minimums Sentences of Incarceration.**

Chairpersons, Senator Anne Beebe-center and Representative Tavis Hasenfus and Members of the Committee, My name is Suzanne Rudalevige and I live in Cape Elizabeth.

I am delighted to support this bill to return discretion in sentencing back to the judges. We take care to choose our judges in Maine and I believe they are capable of sentencing on a case-by-case basis which can be more appropriate to the context of the crime than the “one size fits all” of mandatory minimums.

Giving a maximum sentence rather than a minimum, which used to be the custom, is the place to return to.

Please support this bill.

Thank you.