

CLAC MEMORANDUM/TESTIMONY NFNA
LD 303, An Act to Repeal the Law Prohibiting Unauthorized Paramilitary Training

TO: Senator Anne Beebe-Center
Representative Tavis Hasenfus
Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety

FR: Criminal Law Advisory Commission (CLAC)
c/o laura.yustak@maine.gov

RE: LD 303, An Act to Repeal the Law Prohibiting Unauthorized Paramilitary Training

DA: March 10, 2025

The Criminal Law Advisory Commission (CLAC)* respectfully submits the following testimony neither for nor against LD 303.

CLAC members observed that the law was enacted during the 131st Legislature and became effective less than a year ago, and noted that it has not been in effect long enough to determine whether the law addresses the concerns identified by the last Legislature.

*CLAC is an advisory body established by the Legislature. 17-A M.R.S. §§ 1351-1357. It consists of 9 members appointed by the Attorney General. Our current members include defense attorneys, prosecutors, Maine Bar Counsel, and a retired practitioner with experience as defense counsel, prosecutor and in court administration. In addition, three sitting judges and one retired practitioner, appointed by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court, and, by statute, the Co-Chairs of the Legislature's Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety, serve as consultants. The Supreme Judicial Court's Criminal Process Manager serves as liaison from the Court to CLAC. CLAC advises the Legislature on matters relating to crimes in the Criminal Code and in other Titles, the Bail and Juvenile Codes, and with respect to other statutes related to criminal justice processes.