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LD 303

To the members of the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee:

In the months since the Trump administration has assumed its roles, it seems as though both Federal and State governments have had their identities shaken. The Democratic tenets held within the Constitution of the United States have been in many cases ignored as the intentions of Project 2025 have been advanced.

It now appears, in the form of LD 303, that certain members of the Maine Legislature including Senator Haggan, of my district 10, would like to repeal the law that prohibits unauthorized paramilitary training in our state. This training holds as its goal the creation of violent civil disorder. We witnessed the Neo-Nazi group that descended on a small Maine community with the intention of setting up just such a camp. Their goal was the creation of a "blood tribe." Maine was correct to insure this destructive and violent behavior is not promoted.

I am horrified that my Senator is among those who believe that Maine should embrace these activities as a legitimate aspect of our culture. We should never lose sight of a much greater goal; to maintain an environment where all people are free to pursue a safe and peaceful life. If we set these goals aside, if we dishonor the words of the founders, how can our fragile Democracy stand?

I ask that the members of this committee fight to keep the law intact and discourage this ill-conceived bill that will diminish our state's reputation and very possibly bring harm to our communities.