

CLAC MEMORANDUM/TESTIMONY

Neither for Nor Against LD #534 An Act to Clarify Rights of Crime Victims and Witnesses Regarding Professional Investigator Communication

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

FR: Criminal Law Advisory Commission (CLAC)

RE: LD #534 An Act to Clarify Rights of Crime Victims and Witnesses Regarding Professional
Investigator Communication

DA: March 10, 2025

The Criminal Law Advisory Commission (CLAC)* respectfully submits the following testimony on LD #534.

CLAC does not believe that this proposed statute belongs in Title 17-A at all. This bill relates to regulation of investigators and therefore more properly belongs under licensing requirements for Professional Investigators in Title 32 MRSA § 8101 et seq.

*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.