

**Testimony in opposition of LD 771
to the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety**

March 15, 2025

Senator Beebe-Center, Representative Hasenfus and distinguished members of the Committee:

My name is Sarah Johnson and I am a resident of Sanford.

I am writing in opposition of LD771, An Act to Include Possession of Compounds, Mixtures or Substances Containing a Detectable Amount of Certain Scheduled Drugs to Prove the Offense of Unlawful Trafficking of Scheduled Drugs.

This bill states that any detectable amount of amphetamine or methamphetamine in a compound defines the entire compound as drugs that are subject to trafficking charges. This is no different than placing a droplet of milk in a gallon of water and stating that it is milk. It simply is not. There is a severe impact on a person's life when they are charged with drug trafficking. Probably incarceration in jail for an indeterminate amount of time in a state that does not have sufficient defense resources, resulting in the loss of employment, housing and property. A family may also be impacted with these losses, as well as separation from their loved one. This bill does not support public safety or personal rehabilitation. It simply seems punitive, and I find it troublesome. It is a legal path to generate trafficking charges, negatively impact those charged and their families, and clog an already overburdened court system.

I hope you will oppose this bill.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sarah Johnson

Sanford, Maine.