

## Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers

P.O. Box 17642 Portland, ME 04112-8642 (207) 523-9869 mainemacdl@gmail.com

2024-2025 OFFICERS March 24, 2025

President Jeremy Pratt Senator Anne Beebe-Center - Chair Representative Tavis Hasenfus - Chair

President-Elect Matthew D. Morgan Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety

Matthew D. Morga

100 State House Station Room 436

Vice President Sarah E. Branch Augusta, ME 04330

Secretary Luke Rioux RE: LD 931 -- An Act to Amend the Law Allowing Incarcerated Pretrial or Presentence Individuals to Be Credited Time for Participation in Voluntary

Treasurer Justin Andrus Work Projects in a Jail

2024-2025 DIRECTORS Dear Senator Beebe-Center, Representative Hasenfus, and Members of the Judiciary Committee:

Jesse James Archer Randall Bates Dylan R. Boyd Daniel Dubé Andrew Edwards Benjamin T. Everett Kristine C. Hanly

MACDL supports LD 931.

Benjamin T. Everet Kristine C. Hanly James Mason Joseph Mekonis Jennifer Rohde Robert J. Ruffner John Steed Caitlyn Smith This bill will benefit inmates, the community, and the county jails by allowing inmates to participate in public works-related projects or in the improvement of property owned by charitable organizations.

This is a bill that benefits all parties involved.

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Lisa Whittier

The community at large will benefit by the labor of inmates working on public works-related projects or in the labor provided for the improvement of property owned by charitable organizations.

Tina Heather Nadeau

Inmates will benefit because they will get to participate in something meaningful while getting their sentences reduced for the work they do.

Jails will benefit because this should result in inmates being better behaved which in turn will result in greater safety for corrections officers and other inmates. These jobs will almost certainly be sought after because the work will be done in the community and will result in shorter sentences for inmates. Inmates who are able to participate in these programs will likely be the low risk well behaved inmates. They will be the inmates that other inmates want to emulate.

This bill should be voted Ought to Pass.

Thank you for the opportunity to address this Committee on this important issue.

Sincerely,

/s/ Jeremy Pratt, Esq. President, MACDL