

CLAC MEMORANDUM/TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT
LD 930, An Act to Amend the Law Governing Items Identified as Prison Contraband

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 930, An Act to Amend the Law Governing Items Identified as Prison Contraband

DA: March 24, 2025

The Criminal Law Advisory Commission (CLAC)* respectfully submits the following testimony in support of LD 930.

CLAC members were advised that this proposal is likely to be amended. Our understanding is that the amendment would propose to include “electronic contraband” in the current definition of “contraband” in 17-A M.R.S. § 757(2), and propose to add “vaping device” to 17-A M.R.S. § 757-A, Trafficking of tobacco in adult correctional facilities. CLAC supports this approach.

*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.