

Testimony in support of LD 330
the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety
March 31, 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 support of LD 330, Resolve, to Create an Advisory Council to Oversee the Review and Technical Revision of the Maine Criminal Code and Other Statutes Establishing Criminal Offenses.

I support this bill for many reasons. The most glaring is the overwhelming volume of bills presented in this and previous legislative sessions that are focused on punitive measures, increasing incarceration time for crimes already defined and increasing the number of defined crimes. The negative impact to our families, communities and individuals of increased incarceration is physical, emotional and economic. We do not seem capable of investing thought into more diversion programs, support systems, community service alternatives or restorative processes. I am confident that this diverse, professional and unbiased Advisory Council will consider public safety and community well being in their work.

I hope you will support LD 330 and create this much needed council and process.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sarah Johnson
Sanford, Maine.