

Testimony in opposition of LD 1024
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 opposition of LD 1024, An Act to Expand the List of Crimes That Do Not Qualify for Immunity Under Maine's Good Samaritan Laws Concerning Drug-related Medical Assistance.

I feel this legislation will make our communities less safe. It will traumatize people who would otherwise want to help in a life threatening situation but may not for fear of the devastation that could be imposed by incarceration.

Currently Maine's Good Samaritan law is one of the strongest in the Nation. We should be proud of this leadership as it shows our respect and value of all people. LD 1024 removes protections and increases threats to people who are in a momentary position to save a life.

This bill does not improve public safety, it harms it. Everyone should feel safe calling 9-1-1 and requesting assistance. Everyone should be supported and shown gratitude when trying to save someone's life.

What does it say about us if we restrict the circumstances under which a person's life should be saved?

I hope you will oppose this bill.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sarah Johnson
Sanford, Maine.