

Amy Hughes
Kittery
LD 330

My name is Amy Hughes, and I am a resident of Kittery, Maine. I am writing to express my support for LD 330. Maine's criminal code, like those of many states, has evolved over decades—often through piecemeal amendments in response to specific incidents, political pressures, or social changes. As a result, it contains outdated, redundant, and sometimes contradictory provisions that can undermine the clarity, consistency, and fairness of our justice system.

This bill takes a thoughtful, inclusive, and expert-driven approach by bringing together diverse legal perspectives and ensuring a transparent and professional review process led by an experienced outside consultant. This also allows for input from state departments and agencies with practical knowledge of how these laws are implemented.

A coherent criminal code is essential for protecting individual rights; reducing wrongful prosecutions or legal confusion; promoting efficient court procedures, and ensuring consistent and equitable application of justice across the state.

This is not about overhauling the substance of our laws overnight—it's about clarity, accuracy, and modernization. And by requiring a full report by February 1, 2026, this process is both time-bound and accountable.

I urge this committee to support LD 330 and help lay the groundwork for a fairer and more effective criminal justice system in Maine.

Thank you for your time and your commitment to public service.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Hughes
Kittery, Maine