



TESTIMONY OF ALICIA REA, ESQ.  
LD 1108 – Ought Not to Pass

**An Act Regarding the Reunification of Foster Children with Their  
Parents**

Joint Standing Committee on Health & Human Services  
April 4, 2025

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Senator Ingwersen, Representative Meyer and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services, greetings. My name is Alicia Rea, and I am a policy fellow for the American Civil Liberties Union of Maine, a statewide organization committed to advancing and preserving civil liberties guaranteed by the Maine and U.S. Constitutions through advocacy, education, and litigation. On behalf of our members, we urge you to oppose LD 1108.

LD 1108 would add a requirement for the Department of Health and Human Services to include random screening for illegal drugs in reunification plans for parents who are in treatment for substance use disorder.

The ACLU of Maine opposes government overreach into Mainers' private lives, including random drug screenings for parents who are attempting reunification with their children. If passed, this statute would result in unnecessary surveillance and increased barriers to family reunification, disproportionately targeting parents who are actively seeking treatment and recovery.

Additionally, by singling out parents who are in treatment, this legislation creates a disincentive for parents to seek out treatment for their disorder, as it will subject them to random screening. This approach contravenes the prevailing notion that treatment, not further punishment through consequences for failing the random drug screening, is the best approach to recovery.

Punishing entire families when a parent is struggling is no way to combat drug addiction.

We urge you to vote that LD 1108 ought not to pass.