

Testimony in support of LD 1146
the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety
April 14, 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 1146, An Act Regarding the Required State of Mind Relating to Robbery

From the Maine Attorney General's Office, a Class B crime is defined as: [Crimes punishable by up to ten years incarceration and a \\$20,000 fine](#). As noted by many law offices in Maine, including the [Webb Law Firm](#), "**Class B** crimes are highly serious accusations. This class encompasses drug dealing, specific sexual assault incidents, aggravated assault incidents, and DUI causing severe physical injury."

Intent should be a required factor in such serious charges. Proportionality is the basis for a fair legal system where the sentence reflects the harm done as well as an offender's culpability. Requiring a legal definition of criminal intent, "mens rea", protects everyone from unfair prosecution and helps to protect individuals from being punished with overly harsh sentences for outcomes they did not intend. To be charged with the second most severe crime classification defined in Maine should require this level of intent.

I hope you will support LD1146.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sarah Johnson
Sanford, Maine.

[https://www.webblawmaine.com/blog/crime-class-c-felony-misdemeanor-maine-criminal-offenses-html/#:~:text=If%20Facing%20a%20Class%20B,a%20fine%20not%20exceeding%20\\$10%2C000](https://www.webblawmaine.com/blog/crime-class-c-felony-misdemeanor-maine-criminal-offenses-html/#:~:text=If%20Facing%20a%20Class%20B,a%20fine%20not%20exceeding%20$10%2C000).