

Daria Cullen  
Wells  
LD 648

I'm writing in favor of LD 648, An Act to Expand the Supervised Community Confinement Program (SCCP), because it takes into consideration the age of an individual at the time a serious harm occurred. It acknowledges that people committing crimes at a young age have incomplete brain development and may lack impulse control, decision making skills, and/or a full understanding of the consequences of their actions.

Additionally, the expansion of the current program will better address public safety and recidivism, in that it allows for more individuals to apply who may otherwise end up with "straight release," a current practice which releases incarcerated individuals back into the community without any of the critical resources needed to reintegrate, after having spent years in prison.

And it reduces incarceration costs in Maine which averages around \$117,000 a year, while also allowing individuals to rejoin the workforce and become taxpayers contributing to our economic growth. There are far more benefits to expanding this program, then keeping it limited to only a select number of incarcerated individuals. For all of these reasons, I hope you will vote ought to pass. Thank you.