

TO THE LD 648 COMMITTEE

My name is Calvin Footman of Warren, Maine. I write to express my strong support of LD 648, an act to expand the supervised confinement program in Maine.

Time is one thing no one has control over. As time passes by, we live and die. I lost two of the most important women in my life during this bid. My grandmother whom raised me to Bone Cancer and my mother in law to dementia. They died but what hurts the most is I was in here, rather than with them to comfort them. If this LD 648 had already been in effect, I may have been able to be there for them possibly as a bone marrow match and support. How can I truly grieve while incarcerated? I won't get that chance until I get out. Until then poetry and book writing is my release, my way to honor them both. I'm telling you my story so you can understand and relate to dealing with loss while incarcerated.

I've dedicated my Children's Book series "Frankie Beans" to my grandmother and mother in law. This is my way of honoring these women, their memory and to show my gratitude for what they did and gave to me. With policy LD 648, I would've been able to do a bed side visit and attend both funerals.

As well as being with my family to grieve and for support. That's the difference for me and others if this law had been passed.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my perspective with the Committee. I urge you to vote "Ought to Pass" on LD 648. Thank you