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LD 1684

I, Berry Manter of Portland, Maine, am submitting written support for LD 1684, An Act to Exclude from Eligibility for a Community Confinement Monitoring Program a Person Serving a Sentence for Certain Domestic Violence Crimes.

Those persons willing to violently maim, abuse, or murder their partners/spouses (male or female, people they should most love and respect), should not be regarded as fit to be released back into society without full due process. Such persons nearly routinely seek revenge and repeat violence, usually on the initial victim. While I hold no official authority in mental health, it is commonly observed that such persons often exhibit dangerous personality disorders, lack emotional self management and are unstable individuals. Perpetrators of violence on a loved one should not be treated the same as those incarcerated for theft, drug dealings, or other non-violent crime. Domestic violence criminals are amongst the most dangerous to their initial victims. No partner/spouse should be subjected to such risk. It is my hope that qualified mental health professionals concur and repeat my concerns. No citizen of Maine should suffer abuse or die at the hands of those most intimately connected to them.