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May 19, 2025

Senator Anne Carney, Chair
Representative Amy Kuhn, Chair
Committee on Judiciary
100 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

RE: L.D. 1823, *An Act to Promote Transparency in the Criminal Justice System by
Requiring the Posting of Criminal Case Decisions*

Dear Senator Carney and Representative Kuhn,

I'm writing in opposition to L.D. 1823, *An Act to Promote Transparency in the Criminal Justice System by Requiring the Posting of Criminal Case Decisions*, which would require my Office to post all criminal case decisions to a publicly available website. Because my Office was not aware of this proposal before it was printed, we are not sure what issues the bill is purporting to address.

In any event, the Attorney General's Office does not maintain information about most criminal cases. My office is directly involved only in a small portion of criminal cases in the state. The vast majority of criminal cases are handled by District Attorneys' offices. Collecting information regarding cases in which we were not involved from the many courts across the state on a rolling basis to meet the deadline prescribed by the bill would be a significant undertaking requiring resources not currently within the Office.

Lastly, collecting and publicizing decisions in criminal cases is not consistent with the duties and responsibilities of my office. There are likely other state entities that could more appropriately serve those functions.

Sincerely,

Aaron M. Frey
Attorney General