

Testimony in support of LD1941: An Act to Implement Recommendations of the
Commission to Examine Reestablishing Parole

Good afternoon Representative Kuhn, Senator Carney and the honorable members of
the Judiciary Committee,

My name is Joseph Willis. I support bill LD1941 for a variety of reasons. I am currently an inmate at the Maine State Prison. I am due to be released soon, but I have been locked up in the past and parole would have helped me immensely. No matter how much time I have left or have served, everyone needs to be given a second chance to get home in a timely manner to be with their family and friends. Being separated from people they love, no matter what the crime was, can have negative impacts. My daughter is 10 years old and it hurts having a long distance relationship. My son is 21 and he's grown up seeing his dad in and out of prison. I think by being released early or with the help of the parole system, my family life and my relationship with my children would have improved greatly. I have family and friends who would all benefit from this bill.

Thank you for your time and your attention to this matter. I urge you to vote "ought to pass" on LD1941.

Sincerely,

Joe Willis