

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

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

I am writing today to support LD1941 as I'm directly affected. I'm currently in DOC custody. Not only am I affected, but my family is affected almost more. Coming from a small family who are very close, my mother and siblings suffer for multiple reasons. One is that we all help each other mentally, physically and monetarily. Without me, my mother struggles to make it day by day. I would fix her car, help her fix things around the house and be there for someone to talk to as she is a widow. She also struggles mentally knowing that her child is living behind bars only being able to talk once a week and visit once in a while due to lack of money.

My brother, who is younger than me and who looked up to me, struggles to not have that positive figure to follow as his father passed when he was an infant. He just became a father himself and has no male figure to show him the ropes all due to a mistake I made and am now being punished for. I have done nothing but positive things since entering the DOC system. I work in the America Vet dog program training service dogs for vets in need. This has had a huge impact on my life in such a positive way. I feel like I've become a better person knowing I'm doing a great thing for the community.

I'm also in school going to UMA with a GPA of 3.9. This helps me feel like I have a purpose in life and for the community in the public.

If this bill passed it would help the state become a better place by allowing inmates who have become reformed back to the public to show how people change while incarcerated. I'm asking for you to please support this bill and allow us to show the public that parole will work and is needed in Maine.

Thank you for your time,

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