

## **Testimony in support of LD 2126**

### **To the Judiciary Committee**

January 22, 2026

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and distinguished members of the Committee:

My name is Sarah Johnson and I am a resident of Sanford. I am writing in support of LD 2126, An Act to Eliminate the Juvenile Crime of Willful Refusal to Pay a Fine or Comply with the Terms of a Court Order.

This bill will decrease incarceration of youth as well as unnecessary financial burdens on those who can least afford it. This in turn reduces recidivism and stress on staff charged with incarcerating youth. All of the above is done while maintaining safety and public well-being. Under no circumstance should an unpaid fine result in a juvenile being incarcerated. The unpaid fine has no bearing on public safety, while incarceration for any amount of time causes severe trauma to a young person, and high costs to their family and community.

I hope for a unanimous “Ought To Pass” on LD 2126

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sarah Johnson, Sanford ME