

Katie Dyer  
Calais, Maine  
LD 2163

Dear Judiciary Committee,

My name is Katie Dyer. I am a mother, a student of social work, and a victims' advocate. I am writing today in support of LD 2163, and to urge you to vote Ought to Pass.

Much of my advocacy work involves women who have already been murdered, or who are now considered "missing," after their repeated pleas for help were dismissed or ignored. These are not failures of victims to report harm — they are failures of the system to respond.

Victims should not have to beg to be heard.

According to Maine's crime data, there are thousands of reported domestic violence incidents each year, many involving bodily force such as fists, feet, arms, or teeth. In the same year, the Maine Coalition to End Domestic Violence received approximately 18,000 calls for help. These numbers raise an important question: why do so many victims turn to advocacy organizations instead of law enforcement?

Victims should not have to fight the system to be heard. They deserve timely responses, clear communication, and confidence that their concerns matter.

LD 2163 moves Maine closer to that standard by improving accountability and strengthening victims' rights.

I respectfully urge the committee to vote Ought to Pass on LD 2163.

Thank you for your time and consideration.