## STATE OF MAINE

KATHRYN SLATTERY District I

JACQUELINE SARTORIS DISTRICT II

> NEIL MCLEAN DISTRICT III

MAEGHAN MALONEY DISTRICT IV



## MAINE PROSECUTORS ASSOCIATION SHIRA BURNS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

"An Act Regarding Eligibility of County Jail Inmates for a Community Confinement Monitoring Program"

Before the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety

Public Hearing Date: April 10, 2023 Testimony in Support of LD 692

Senator Beebe-Center, Representative Salisbury and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety. My name is Shira Burns and I represent the Maine Prosecutors Association. I am here to testify in support of LD 692.

Being properly aware of risks associated with domestic violence offenders is essential for holding domestic violence offenders accountable and providing the best safety for the victim available. LD 692 provides certain factors that jails need to consider when releasing a domestic violence offender through the community confinement monitoring program. This is all practical and sensible information to have when making a decision about an offender's risk of release through the community confinement monitoring program.

Victim notification is an essential factor in victim safety. Victims are in the best position to understand the risks posed by their abuser. The Maine Prosecutors Association appreciates that not only will a good faith effort be made to contact the victim directly, but that the prosecutor and local domestic violence resource center will be notified of the offender's pending release to provide more of a collaborative approach in supporting the victim.

For these reasons, the Maine Prosecutors Association supports LD 692.

Shira Burns Executive Director Maine Prosecutors Association Shira.burns@maineprosecutors.com R. CHRISTOPHER ALMY DISTRICT V

> NATASHA IRVING DISTRICT VI

ROBERT GRANGER DISTRICT VII

TODD R. COLLINS DISTRICT VIII