



Janet T. Mills  
Governor

STATE OF MAINE  
*Department of Public Safety*  
**MAINE CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACADEMY**  
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Vassalboro, Maine 04989



Michael J. Sauschuck  
Commissioner

Richard R. Desjardins  
Director

**TESTIMONY OF ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, JACK PECK, JR.  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY  
MAINE CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACADEMY**

(In Opposition) LD 1247

*Resolve, to Study Training in Racial Issues, Racial Justice and Social Issues at the  
Maine Criminal Justice Academy and Study Additional Requirements for Law  
Enforcement Officers and Candidates*

Senator Beebe-Center, Representative Salisbury, Representative Gramlich and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety, my name is Jack Peck, and I am the Assistant Director of the Maine Criminal Justice Academy. I am speaking on behalf of the Department of Public Safety in opposition to *LD 1247 Resolve, to Study Training in Racial Issues, Racial Justice and Social Issues at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy and Study Additional Requirements for Law Enforcement Officers and Candidates*

This bill would establish a seventeen-member committee to review law enforcement officer training. This committee would be authorized to meet six times in 2023 and report back to this committee by January 2024 on recommendations on training for officers on racial issues, racial justice and social issues and for additional requirements for law enforcement officers and candidates.

The MCJA currently has a Board of Trustees that reviews and approves curriculum, training, and the certification and de-certification of all law enforcement and correctional officers in the state. This Board consists of eighteen members, five of whom serve by virtue of their public office. The other thirteen members are appointed by the Governor to serve for a term of three years. Members of the Board include representatives from; municipal, county, state and federal law enforcement, state and county corrections officers, and five citizen members who are not and never have been a sworn member of a law enforcement agency. This broad-based representation is intended to ensure that the best interests of the people of the State of Maine are served.

The curriculum for the academy is open source and can be seen at [maine.gov/dps/mcja](http://maine.gov/dps/mcja) All Board meetings are open to the public and past meeting minutes are also on our website. This bill seems duplicative of the good work that is already being done by the current MCJA Board.  
Thank you