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January 16, 2024

Testimony of Rep. Kevin O'Connell introducing
**LD 2041, Resolve, to Review Traffic Fatalities Occurring While an Operator
Was Under the Influence and Subsequent Prosecution with Respect
to Those Occurrences**

Before the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee

Senator Beebe-Center, Representative Salisbury and esteemed members of the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety, my name is Kevin O'Connell and I am here today to introduce **LD 2041, Resolve, to Review Traffic Fatalities Occurring While an Operator Was Under the Influence and Subsequent Prosecution with Respect to Those Occurrences.**

This resolve directs the Attorney General to create a commission including law enforcement officers and district attorneys to review traffic fatalities in Maine where the operator was charged with operating under the influence. The commission would create a set of best practices to be used as a guide to enforce and prosecute these cases.

Historically, we have failed to meaningfully hold people accountable for these types of crimes in Maine. With full support from members of law enforcement, including the sheriffs, this bill would help change that.

I could go on about why we need this legislation urgently, but I think the testimony of those who will follow paints a more compelling picture of this problem than anything I could say here.

Thank you. I'm happy to try and answer any questions you may have.