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

(In Favor) LD 2045

**An Act to Establish Training and Certification Standards for Probation
and Parole Officers**

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 Director of the Maine Criminal Justice Academy. I am speaking on behalf of the Department of Public Safety in favor of *LD 2045: An Act to Establish Training and Certification Standards for Probation and Parole Officers*.

This bill requires that Maine Criminal Justice Academy (MCJA) Board of trustees to establish training and certification standards, set requirements for board-approved courses, prescribe curricula, and certify graduates of board-approved courses for probation and parole officers and requires those officers to meet the training and certification standards established by the board.

The MCJA Board of Trustees currently 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 nineteen 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.

We will work collaboratively with the Department of Corrections to ensure that training and certification standards are established no later than January 1, 2025.

Thank you.