

COUNTY OF WASHINGTON
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Commissioners:

David C. Burns, Chairman
John B. Crowley, Sr., Commissioner
William "Billy" Howard III, Commissioner

County Manager:

Renée Gray
Administrative Assistant:
Carla J. R. Manchester

January 16, 2025

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn and members of the Judiciary Committee. My name is Renée Gray and I serve as the manager of Washington County. Prior to my tenure as County Manager, I served six years on the Washington County Budget Advisory Committee, as Town Administrator for the Town of Lubec. I strongly see the need for separate prosecutorial districts in Hancock and Washington Counties and write in support of LD 16.

As we entered into our first budget meeting in 2024, one of the first questions asked by the Chair of the Budget Advisory Committee was "where are we with getting our own District Attorney"? This question comes even when the committee was faced with a 37% increase in the initial proposed FY2025 budget. The need for a separate District Attorney for Washington County has been evident for a long time. It passed the house and the senate before, so the need was heard at the time. However, for reasons unknown to the rest of us, did not get passed in the 11th hour. I thank the sponsors Marianne Moore (R)*, Aaron Dana (NP), Nicole Grohoski (D), Mathew McIntyre (R), Nina Milliken (D), Arthur Mingo (R), Tiffany Strout (R), William Tuell (R), for bringing this important discussion back to the table, and truly hope it is funded. Washington County is geographically too large to be served by a shared District Attorney.

Sincerely,



Renée Gray
County Manager

"The Sunrise County – where the sun first shines!"