

*132nd Legislature*  
***Senate of***  
***Maine***  
*Senate District 29*

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*Testimony of Senator Anne Carney introducing*  
**LD 122, An Act to Update Certain Laws Regarding Extended Care and**  
**Adoption**  
*before the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary*  
January 22, 2025

Representative Kuhn and esteemed members of the Committee on Judiciary, I am Anne Carney, proudly representing Senate District 29, which includes South Portland, Cape Elizabeth and part of Scarborough. It is a pleasure to be with you today to introduce LD 122, “An Act to Update Certain Laws Regarding Extended Care and Adoption.”

This Department bill makes updates to the process for judicial reviews in the Maine District Court for both youth in foster care and youth in the Office of Child and Family Services’ (OCFS) Voluntary Extended Care Program. In addition, LD 122 makes minor changes to the statutory language for the Alumni Transition Grant Program (ATGP) and adoption-related background checks.

While these are all relatively minor changes, they will have a positive impact on OCFS’ work by clarifying areas of statute for youth eligible for ATGP and for our federal partners at the FBI, ensuring that youth in foster care have the support they need to engage in court hearings that directly relate to their lives. It will also allow older youth in extended care to minimize disruptions to their often-busy lives.

The Department will follow me to present more specifics, and I invite you to direct your questions to them.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to introduce this bill.

Anne Carney  
State Senator, District 29