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Senator, District 12

**THE MAINE SENATE**  
132nd Legislature

3 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333

Good Afternoon Representative Hasenfus and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety. As you know, I am Senator Beebe-Center, and I am here today to present a bill that I have agreed to partner on with the Maine Department of Corrections, LD 17, An Act to Designate the Warden of the Maine State Prison as Chief Administrative Officer of the Bolduc Correctional Facility.

This bill is a simple, common sense, proposal to help the department better manage its resources. Currently, Maine State Prison and Bolduc Correctional facility are established under separate sections in Maine Law that require the facilities to have separate leadership and separate management of financial resources, material resources, and staff.

This separation might surprise you if, like me, you've ever spent time visiting these facilities. Maine State Prison and Bolduc Correctional Facility are located right next to each other. This closeness results in the facilities sharing many resources and operating in close coordination. It would be easy to assume that the facilities operate like a single campus in the same way as Maine Correctional Center and Southern Maine Women's Reentry Center. However, that is not the case.

As the department will address in more depth following my testimony, this separation creates some unnecessary complications for the operation of these facilities. It makes sharing of financial resources more cumbersome and it impedes the efficiency of staff stepping in to help out when needed. The bill before you today solves those problems by formally unifying the facilities in statute as one unified campus. According to the department, this bill will not result in any other meaningful change to the operation of these facilities.

This concludes my testimony. While I'd be glad to answer any questions the committee has, it may be better to wait and ask those questions of the Department, who will be up next to explain this bill in more detail.

Thank you