



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002
(207) 287-1440
TTY: (207) 287-4469

Randall A. Greenwood

38 Witherell Road
Wales, ME 04280
Residence: (207) 754-6604
Randall.Greenwood@legislature.maine.gov

February 13, 2025

LD 332

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn and distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary. I am Representative Randy Greenwood, proudly representing my friends and neighbors in Litchfield, Monmouth and my hometown of Wales, both in Androscoggin and Kennebec Counties. I am here today to present LD 332 and express my strong support for the bill, "*An Act to Establish Mandatory Minimum Sentences for Gross Sexual Assaults and Sex Trafficking of Children.*" This proposed legislation is both necessary and urgent in the fight to protect the most vulnerable members of our society—our children.

The impact of gross sexual assault and sex trafficking on children is immeasurable. It shatters lives, leaving lifelong physical, emotional, and psychological scars. These heinous crimes not only harm the children directly affected but also ripple through families, communities and society at large. It is imperative that we, as a state, take a firm stand against these crimes by ensuring that perpetrators are held accountable through appropriate and effective sentencing.

Mandatory minimum sentences for crimes such as gross sexual assault and aggravated sex trafficking of children are crucial for several reasons:

1. Ensuring Justice for Victims
2. Deterrence with the certainty of non-negotiable punishment
3. Consistency in Sentencing
4. Supporting Law Enforcement and the Judicial System by reducing the possibility of leniency or inconsistent sentencing, which ensures the legal system remains committed in protecting children from abuse and exploitation.

In addition, these criminals have a high recidivism rate because, in their mind, they believe they won't be caught and even if they do, the penalty is next to nothing. They target children because they are easily manipulated and their innocence leads to misplaced trust.

I urge you to pass this bill to provide stronger protection for our children and send a clear and uncompromising message that Maine **will not** tolerate crimes against children. We must stand united to ensure that those who commit these atrocious acts face appropriate and just consequences.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important matter. I urge you to support this bill and help protect Maine's children from the devastating impacts of sexual assault and sex trafficking.

Thank you and I'll be happy to answer any questions you may have.