



Administrative Office of the Courts

P.O. Box 4820, Portland, Maine 04112-4820

Tel: (207) 822-0792 FAX: (207) 822-0781 TTY: (207) 822-0701

Julia Finn, Esq.
Legislative Analyst

Tel: (207) 822-0767
julia.finn@courts.maine.gov

Judicial Branch testimony neither for nor against LD 340, An Act Regarding Speedy Trials:

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, members of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary, my name is Julie Finn and I represent the Judicial Branch. I would like to provide the following testimony neither for nor against this bill.

As you know, this bill was proposed last session. The Judicial Branch very much appreciated the work of the sponsor in sharing early drafts with us and incorporating our suggested amendments. LD 340 is the same as the final, amended draft from last session. The Judicial Branch suggestions, including the required timelines, while adjusted forward given the passage of time, are contained in LD 340. As a result, the Judicial Branch does not oppose the pending legislation. In fact, forty other states and the federal court system have a speedy trial requirement, and the Judicial Branch welcomes the conversation.

The reason that the Judicial Branch can accommodate the time periods set forth in the LD is because we would not have to alter current court schedules and processes. If this were to change, and the timelines shortened, court processes could be impacted, which may make a fiscal note necessary.

Thank you for your time. I would be happy to answer any questions.