

132nd Legislature
Senate of
Maine
Senate District 29

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Testimony of Senator Anne Carney introducing
**LD 983, “An Act Regarding Service of Notice of Restricted Person Status to
Hospitalized Patients,”**
before the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary
March 24, 2025

Representative Kuhn and esteemed colleagues on the Committee on Judiciary, I am Senator 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 to introduce LD 983, “An Act Regarding Service of Notice of Restricted Person Status to Hospitalized Patients.”

This bill addresses a situation that presents challenges to both hospitals and law enforcement agencies by creating a cooperative process for law enforcement to serve notice of orders under Maine’s yellow flag law when the defendant to be served is in a hospital setting.

The proposed statute outlines a process for law enforcement to request that a hospital provide access to a defendant who is receiving care in the hospital for purposes of serving an extreme risk protection order. This bill adds a process to the cooperation statute for law enforcement to request access to a hospitalized patient for purpose of serving notice of restricted person status that is similar to the process used to serve an order under Maine’s Protection From Abuse Act. Hospitals request this change so that the law applies the same standard to their work with law enforcement in these two similar situations.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to introduce this bill. Representatives from Maine’s hospitals will be following my testimony to provide additional information.

Anne Carney
State Senator, District 29