

Timothy Nangle Senator, District 26

## **THE MAINE SENATE** 132nd Legislature

3 State House Station Augusta, Maine 04333

April 2, 2025

Senator Pinny Beebe-Center, Senate Chair Representative Tavis Hasenfus, House Chair Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety c/o Legislative Information Office 100 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333

RE: LD 993 – "An Act to Require First Responder Training for Mental Health Crisis and Critical Incident Stress Recognition"

Dear Senator Beebe-Center, Representative Hasenfus, and Members of the Committee,

I respectfully request that the Committee vote Ought Not to Pass on LD 993, "An Act to Require First Responder Training for Mental Health Crisis and Critical Incident Stress Recognition."

As the sponsor of this bill, I introduced LD 993 to address a real and growing need: ensuring our first responders have access to consistent training that helps them recognize and manage mental health crises and critical incident stress — for themselves and for the people they serve.

However, over the course of the session and in conversation with stakeholders, it has become clear that this proposal requires further refinement to ensure it is workable, effective, and appropriately aligned with existing supports and programs.

I remain fully committed to this policy goal and plan to work collaboratively with the Department of Public Safety, peer support teams, and mental health professionals to strengthen the concept and bring forward an improved version in the future.

Thank you for your consideration, and for your continued efforts to support the safety and well-being of Maine's first responders and communities.

Sincerely,

Tim Nangle

State Senator, Senate District 26

Representing Casco, Frye Island, Raymond, Windham, and part of Westbrook