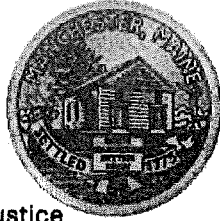


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## Town of Manchester, Maine



Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice

Letter in Support of LD 852, "An Act to Reduce the Property Tax Burden by Adequately Funding County Jail Operations"

Dear Members of the Criminal Justice Committee,

The Manchester Select Board wishes to express its strong support for LD 852, "An Act to Reduce the Property Tax Burden by Adequately Funding County Jail Operations," which your committee currently is considering.

Our Board has witnessed firsthand the financial strain that inadequate funding for county correctional facilities operations has placed on our local communities. The burden of funding these essential services has increasingly fallen on property taxpayers, resulting in higher property taxes and financial hardships for many residents.

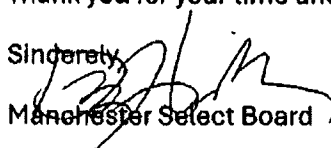
LD 852 proposes a sensible solution to this issue by ensuring that county correctional facilities receive the necessary state funding. This legislation will alleviate the disproportionate financial burden on property taxpayers, allowing for a more equitable distribution of funding responsibilities. By adequately funding county correctional facilities operations, we also can ensure that these facilities have the resources needed to operate safely and effectively.

The benefits of passing LD 852 extend beyond financial relief for property taxpayers. Proper funding for county correctional facilities is crucial for maintaining public safety, providing adequate care and rehabilitation programs for inmates, and supporting the overall well-being of our communities. Without sufficient funding, county correctional facilities face significant challenges in meeting these critical needs, which can lead to negative outcomes for both inmates and the broader public.

The Manchester Select Board urges you to support LD 852 and recommend its passage to the full Legislature. This act represents a vital step towards addressing the financial inequities related to county jail funding and ensuring that our justice system operates fairly and efficiently. Your consideration and support for this important legislation are greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

  
Manchester Select Board

cc: Senator Craig Hickman

Rep: Dan Shagoury

Lloyd Ireland, Chair, Kennebec County Budget Committee