



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Testimony of Rep. Stephan Bunker introducing
**LD 1607, An Act to Require Law Enforcement Agencies to Adopt
Written Policies Regarding Compliance with Certain Constitutional
Obligations Related to Disclosure of Evidence**
Before the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety

Good afternoon, Senator Beebe-Center, Representative Hasenfus and esteemed members of the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee. My name is Stephan Bunker, and I represent House District 75, which includes the towns of Farmington and Chesterville.

I am here today to introduce **LD 1607, An Act to Require Law Enforcement Agencies to Adopt Written Policies Regarding Compliance with Certain Constitutional Obligations Related to Disclosure of Evidence.**

The Maine Criminal Justice Academy, under its authority to oversee police training, certifications and ethical oversight, has a long-standing list of requirements that it places upon law enforcement agencies to adopt certain written policies regarding procedures to deal with certain important, core issues, to include:

- Use of force;
- Barricaded persons;
- Domestic violence;
- Police pursuits;
- Criminal conduct by police;
- Death notifications, etc.

The board requires each chief to comply with such policies and adopt them in writing, and implement to all officers through orientation and training.

This bill adds a new written policy topic specific to complying with the constitutional obligations of two cases, Brady vs Maryland and Giglio vs United States. Further, this also requires that the agency disclose to the board any violations of such case law.

District 75: Farmington and Chesterville

I would add that the Maine Chiefs of Police Association, in working with the board, has had a long-standing policy and procedures committee that adopts model written policies on a host of issues, that when adopted, can help to implement best practices within the profession. This requirement, as implemented by written policy, will help police agencies and prosecuting agencies in compliance with such case law.

Thank you for your consideration. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.