



JANET T. MILLS
GOVERNOR

I
STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
111 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA MAINE
04333-0111

RANDALL A. LIBERTY
COMMISSIONER

TESTIMONY OF

ANTHONY CANTILLO, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
— MAINE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

May 5, 2025

In Support to:

LD 1844, An Act to Expand the State's Workforce by Supporting the Transition from Incarceration to Employment

Senator Beebe-Center, Representative Hasenfus and distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety, I am Tony Cantillo, Deputy Commissioner at the Maine Department of Corrections (DOC) providing testimony today in support of LD 1844, An Act to Expand the State's Workforce by Supporting the Transition from Incarceration to Employment.

The Department would like to thank Representative Sayre for taking a comprehensive and reasonable approach to supporting the foundational needs of incarcerated residents transitioning back to Maine communities or the communities that residents will return to. As you know, the Department's nationally recognized operational philosophy, the Maine Model of Corrections, holds key values of: Destigmatization, Humanization, and Normalization. This Bill aligns with the Maine Model of Corrections and the Mission of the Department of Corrections.

The Department recognizes that transition planning is dynamic. Transition planning requires access to resources, commitment, and collaboration among stakeholders, including the resident, to support sustained success in the community. Evidence supports that investing in higher education, behavioral/mental health services, vocational training, health/wellness, financial literacy, pro-social activities, and access to technology leads to greater levels of success for anyone.

For the reasons stated above, the Department respectfully presents this testimony in support of LD 1844.

This concludes my testimony.

I am happy to answer any questions.

Anthony Cantillo
Deputy Commissioner
Maine Department of Corrections