



Rachel Talbot Ross
Senator, District 28

THE MAINE SENATE
132nd Legislature

3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

To: Senator Beebe-Center, Senate Chair
Representative Hasenfus, House Chair
Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety

Subject: Request for an Ought Not to Pass Recommendation for LD 1909, "Resolve, to Provide a Comprehensive Analysis of Criminal Legal System Data"

Dear Senator Beebe-Center and Representative Hasenfus,

I am writing to respectfully request that the Committee issue an Ought Not to Pass recommendation for LD 1909, "Resolve, to Provide a Comprehensive Analysis of Criminal Legal System Data."

This resolution was introduced to initiate a critical, independent analysis of how public entities in Maine currently collect, store, and utilize data related to the criminal legal system. It aimed to identify barriers to comprehensive data collection and develop a multiphase plan to address those barriers, ultimately improving transparency and accountability within our criminal justice system.

However, after further consideration and discussions with stakeholders, it has become clear that the proposed approach may require a more comprehensive framework to effectively address the complex challenges associated with criminal legal system data. I believe this approach would benefit from additional collaboration with data experts, criminal justice advocates, and impacted communities before moving forward.

I remain committed to improving transparency and accountability within Maine's criminal justice system and appreciate the Committee's thoughtful consideration of this request.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rachel Talbot Ross".

Rachel Talbot Ross
State Senator, District 28
Representing part of Portland and Peaks Island