

William Kolodnicki
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Senator Dill and Representative O'Neil and all distinguished members of this committee. I am William J. Kolodnicki, 525 West Street, Princeton, ME. and I wish to support L.D. 657.

I am retired from the US Fish and Wildlife Service after 26 years serving as a Refuge Manager, Law Enforcement Officer and Law Enforcement Supervisor in Refuges of New York, Connecticut and most recently as the Manager of the Northern Maine National Wildlife Refuges (Moosehorn, Aroostook and Sunhaze Meadow).

During my service I have encountered a wide range of law enforcement issues and in every case the public and the safety of our officers were the priority.

I have worked with a full time officer and without. My hands were tied many times waiting for assistance in this large state as well as other parts of the country. The ability for the Manager or their designee to be able to issue a notice of violation at their discretion is a valuable tool for holding the situation in check for the moment. Professional training to teach the Manager how to protect themselves and Law Enforcement tools is equally important during the incident and later on in court should it go that far.

I would encourage you to please listen to your field staff and insure for all our well beings to include the resource that they have the best tools that the State can afford them. Those minutes waiting for back up are lonely and also some of the most important in bringing the incident to a safe conclusion.

Thank you for the opportunity and for your work and dedication.