



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Testimony in Support of:

LD 419, "An Act Regarding Participation in Public Works Projects by Pretrial Inmates"

Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety

Senator Deschambault, Representative Warren and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety. I'm Danny Costain, State Representative for House District 100 which includes the towns of Corinna, Dixmont, Etna, Newport and Plymouth. I'm here today in support of LD 419, "An Act Regarding Participation in Public Works Projects by Pretrial Inmates."

To me, this bill is important for a couple of reasons. First, it gives an inmate the opportunity to shorten their sentence by participating in a work release program. Secondly, by staying productive, we have seen how it can increase morale while helping to improve public works related projects as well as helping charitable organizations do the same.

This program will be overseen by the sheriff of a county jail or the sheriff of a county that shares a regional jail with other counties.

We have seen many positive aspects of different work release programs and I believe this bill fits into the spirit of what they are intended to do by providing an opportunity to an inmate to be productive and potentially shorten their sentence as well as improving the community around them.

Please join me in supporting this bill.

Respectfully submitted,

Danny Costain

District 100 Corinna, Dixmont, Etna (part), Newport and Plymouth

State Representative