Please support LD 546: To Implement the Recommendations of the Maine Juvenile Justice System Assessment and Reinvestment Task Force.

Community based therapeutic activities and support is Maine's best chance to integrate justice-involved youth into society as healthy, productive citizens.

The current neuroscience on Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) make clear the connections between early trauma and emotional and behavioral problems. Helping youth know that they matter and that they are safe are key to recovery.

The level of care needed is best provided in community using restorative processes, which has been used successfully at the Coastal Maine Regional Reentry Center.

This bill helps Maine move in the best direction. It also gives us the best chance to use our taxes to help heal youth, prevent future incarcerations, and reduce future costs.

Joyce Schelling Orland

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