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LD 1175 IN FAVOR OF By Eddie Burgess

An Italian plagued by a pandemic we see the communication is ever so important. How could we not increase opportunities for folks to make phone calls from State institutions whether mental health criminal Correctional it doesn't matter these resources must be provided.

It is vitally important the tea's resources be provided for folks to recover to make positive healthy connections when they are released to drop the recidivism rate. But also it will be an opportunity for them to make sober connections for group therapy and for better living conditions than they had previously to being picked up and brought to these institutions.

Any substance abuse counselor or program aana or any of the other four mention groups would encourage better and healthier connections if they don't have a way to make a phone call, talk to family or make sober living arrangements. How can we expect them to improve and maintain a healthy lifestyle?

That's the same as telling someone with mental illness sorry we can improve your Wellness status by providing medication or getting you into mainecare for counseling and we know you need the counseling in the medication but we hope that you can find a way to pay for it and the individual has no resources to take care of it.

And a time when many sheriffs use the funds from the phones for many different reasons focusing on the phones and making sure that people can make healthy connections is more important than line items in a budget or giving inmates a number they should be able to make phone calls make connections improve their Wellness prior to release especially when they don't even have a care plan or an exit strategy in most cases.

We also know that in many situations internet is not a viable option in many parts of Maine especially in rural Maine where drug addiction seems to be the highest in which our death rates are soaring.