

Jeffrey Kerr
Farmington
LD 696

February 9, 2022

Good morning Senator Deschambault, Representative Warren and honorable members of the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety, my name is Jeff Kerr, I am a resident of Farmington and I am here today to testify in favor of LD 696.

When I was a kid, I sure liked to be alone but after an hour or so I got lonely, and I really needed to be around people. All people are meant to communicate and not be alone. The Department of Corrections facilities should be places that support all types of rehabilitation, not somewhere that will do significant damage to my mental and physical being.

The Department of Corrections is a place where you get help because you made a mistake in life by sticking people in a room for up to 23 hours; that does not help anyone at all! Remember, that people will return to my town and your town when they are released and we want our neighbors to have the best chance to be productive members of our communities when they return.

We ask you to support the proposed amendment which will go further in supporting the needs of people who are incarcerated.

In closing I urge you to pass LD 696.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Jeff Kerr
Board of Visitors For Franklin County, Registered & Maine Prisoner Re-entry Coach & CCAR
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