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LD 1604 An Act To Reclassify Certain Offenses under the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Laws and Motor Vehicle Laws and Increase the Efficiency of the Criminal Justice System

Good morning Senator Deschambault and esteemed colleagues of the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee, I am Charlotte Warren, and I am pleased to present LD 1604 An Act To Reclassify Certain Offenses under the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Laws and Motor Vehicle Laws and Increase the Efficiency of the Criminal Justice System on behalf of the Maine Prosecutors Association.

Many of you who were on this committee during the 129th session, likely remember that the Maine Prosecutors Association brought this bill forward then. Unfortunately due to the Covid-19 pandemic, when the legislature abruptly adjourned, their proposal died.

Because the issues overwhelming the courts have only been drastically exacerbated by the pandemic, the state's prosecutors association has again asked me to bring forward their proposal.

There is representation from the Maine Prosecutors Association here today and I will yield my time to them to explain the proposal and answer questions.