

Mathew Davis
Warren
LD 178

To: Senator Beebe-Center, Representative Salisbury, and members of the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee,

Hello, my name is Mathew Davis, and I am a resident of Maine State Prison. I currently live in the Earned Living Unit. I am serving a life sentence and have been incarcerated for the past (10) years. I am writing to show my support for LD 178, to Reestablish Parole back in Maine.

I do not know about you, but I certainly believe in second chances. I have met so many men here making positive changes, working on themselves as well as helping others to do the same. In the past few years, I have noticed this prison changing, it has become more of a community than a criminal proving ground. Yes! There are individuals not willing to change but that number is decreasing as more opportunities arise.

Since being here, I have changed. I have worked through personal issues through programming such as "ACT" Acceptance Commitment Therapy, Yoga, Anger Management, PTSD Courses, and PTSD for veterans. I have trained Service dogs for veterans and first responders, police, and firefighters for the "American Vet Dogs Program". I have received a certificate as a Certified Service dog Trainer for having completed a 4,000-hour course and I am currently the first intern for the AVD Foundation as a resident of the Maine State Prison. I'm so thankful I am able to give back to the community in such an impactful way.

In closing, I want to ask you a question. If you had broken the law, made a mistake, or maybe someone you loved did, would you want to see them get a second chance back out in society? Thank you for all your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Mathew Davis