



**Testimony in response to Governor Mill's opposition to authorizing Harm Reduction Health Centers/Safe injection Sites as information for the Criminal Justice Committee**

April 27th, 2023

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

My name is Courtney Gary-Allen. I am the Organizing Director of the Maine Recovery Advocacy Project, a grassroots bipartisan network of lawmakers, advocates, and organizations working on community and public policy based solutions to substance use in Maine. I am writing today to provide information about the debate around Harm Reduction Health Centers, Overdose Prevention Sites, and/or safe injection sites, (all of which are apples of the same tree).

Attached to this testimony you are going to find my testimony on LD 1159, a bill that was just voted out of the Health and Human Services Committee yesterday, in response to Governor Mills testimony in opposition to the bill. I thought it was important information for your committee to have as I imagine that her administration will also be testifying against the bill before you today.

In my response, I provide a detailed rebuttal to each of the oppositions of the Governor's office. I hope that you will consider this information as you consider the bill before you today.

Thank you. I am happy to answer any questions.

Sincerely,

Courtney Gary-Allen  
Organizing Director  
Maine Recovery Advocacy Project