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February 12, 2024

Senator Anne Beebe-Center, Chair  
Representative Suzanne Salisbury, Chair  
Committee on Criminal Justice & Public Safety  
100 State House Station Room 436  
Augusta, ME 04330

RE: LD 2204 -- An Act to Combat Racketeering in Scheduled Drugs by  
Certain Organizations

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

MACDL opposes LD 2204.

MACDL understands that Maine drug prosecutors are of the view that they already  
have all of the tools that they need to combat drug trafficking in Maine. There is  
nothing in this bill that prosecutors have indicated that they need in order to combat  
drug trafficking in Maine. If the prosecutors do not need what is being offered with  
this bill, there is no need to even discuss this bill.

Additionally, there are significant constitutional issues with respect to the prohibition  
on people who were not born in the United States from owning property. There are  
already challenges in the federal courts to similar provisions arising out of similar  
state statutes like the one proposed here.

Finally, the Criminal Law Advisory Commission reviewed this bill, and it has  
indicated, unanimously, that the bill should not be passed.

Thank you for the opportunity to address this important bill.

Sincerely,

Walter F. McKee  
Chair, Legislative Committee