

WALDO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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SHERIFF
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CHIEF DEPUTY
Jason Trundy

March 25, 2021

Honorable Members of the Health and Human Services Committee,

My name is Jeffrey Trafton. I am currently serving as the Sheriff of Waldo County. I would like to offer my support for LD 512, An Act To Provide Intensive Case Managers to Counties That Do Not Have County Jails or Regional Jails.

Waldo County is one of those counties that does not have a traditional jail. We run a 72- hour booking and holding facility and a 32-bed reentry center. We currently share an Intensive Case Manager with three other counties in the Mid-Coast area. The result of this sharing is that folks incarcerated in Waldo County receive almost no services simply because it is not humanly possible for one Case Manager to adequately serve inmates in four counties.

The Intensive Case Managers specialize in assisting folks who are in custody who are suffering from substance abuse disorder and mental health issues. Over the past three years, our booking facility has processed more than 3,200 persons into custody. 788 of those individuals were booked into the facility three or more times. 424 of those displayed co-occurring issues of both substance use disorder and mental health issues. 309 of them displayed only substance use disorder and 19 displayed only mental health issues. This leaves only 36 of 788 who had no indication of substance use disorder or mental health problems. There is a critical need for the services provided by the Intensive Case Managers.

I believe providing one case manager to each county facility will result in a much higher number of this at-risk population receiving the much-needed help they need to address these issues. I also believe it will help in our efforts to decrease the high level of recidivism we see in counties statewide.

Thank you for the opportunity to share this input with your committee.

Respectfully,

Sheriff Jeffrey C. Trafton

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