



## Cumberland County District Attorney's Office

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Committee on Health and Human Services  
c/o Legislative Information Office  
100 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333  
SENT ELECTRONICALLY

**RE: LD 488 - Resolve, To Expand Recovery Community Organizations throughout Maine**

Senator Claxton, Representative Meyer, and members of the Health and Human Services Committee:

I write in support of LD 488 to expand recovery community organizations throughout Maine.

As we have all heard many times, the opposite of addiction is connection. Peer support in the recovery community is key to helping people who are struggling with substance use disorder. In Cumberland County, we are very blessed to have numerous recovery community centers, specifically the Portland Recovery Community Center (PRCC) and the Lake Region Recovery Center (LRRC). Both share a mission and vision to provide resources for people recovering and affected by substance use disorder and to provide direct access to support groups, education, and individual resources to enhance the ability to heal, strengthen and grow in one's recovery. I am a strong supporter of both and I am happy to have them available in our community. That said, we need more.

We are aware that substance use disorder has touched all counties and all people in Maine. We know that nobody is immune from this pandemic and there is no vaccination on the horizon. The best antidote is prevention and peer support of those affected. We need to continue to rally as a state to take on this fight and we have made some progress. At the same time, we need to do more. Recovery Community Centers in all counties is a first step towards achieving this goal. People need to have a location where they know that they will be welcomed, they will be supported, and they can get help. LD 488 is a mechanism to provide recovery community centers that will save lives. You cannot put a price tag on such a thing.

For these reasons, the Maine Prosecutors Association is in favor of LD 488.

Thank you for the consideration,

Jonathan Sahrbeck  
Cumberland County District Attorney