



Administrative Office of the Courts

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Judicial Branch testimony neither for nor against LD 1410, An Act to Provide Due Process in Confiscation and Destruction of Personal Items of Unhoused Persons:

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, members of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary, my name is Julie Finn and I represent the Judicial Branch. I would like to provide some brief testimony neither for nor against LD 1410.

The Judicial Branch will limit its comments to new section 2301, subsection 4 of the bill, titled "Enforcement." This subsection creates a cause of action in Superior Court for up to \$2,000 in damages and/or injunctive relief after the destruction of personal property.

Based on the information included in the bill, the Judicial Branch suggests that District Court would be the appropriate court for filing an action, whether, for example, under the statute involving the recovery of personal property or under the small claims law. *See* 14 M.R.S. § 7071; 14 M.R.S. § 7481.

Thank you for your consideration.