

# Maine PRISONER ADVOCACY Coalition



May 5, 2025

Senator Carney, Representative Carney, and honorable members of the Judiciary Committee:

My name is Jan Collins, I am Assistant Director of Maine Prisoner Advocacy Coalition (MPAC) an organization committed to ethical, positive, and humane changes in Maine's prison system. I am here in support of LD 1822 An Act to Enact the Maine Online Data Privacy Act and against LDs [1224](#), [1088](#), and [1284](#).

LD 1822 would create a new statute giving Maine consumers a range of rights in their digital data. Like Maryland Online Data Privacy Act, the bill would apply to for-profit companies that annually process the data of 35,000 or more Maine residents or derive 20% or more of their revenue from the sale of data and have the data of 10,000 or more Maine residents. The fact that a significant percentage of a companies profit results from the sale of data would come as a shock to most Maine residents.

This bill would limit the collection, processing, and sharing of consumer data, a welcome and necessary step in providing consumer privacy and to help slow the dissemination of data which is then used to spam our mail boxes. Of greater concern is the use of purchased data to scam consumers, a practice that costs Mainer's millions of dollars annually.

We are under a daily barrage of information streams and commercial gimmicks intended to make a profit for a commercial interest. But we are also being conned and coerced by more nefarious actors who can easily purchase our information for their purposes. Most of us are neither aware of, nor would we consent to, the use of our data.

Some of the people most affected by the current practices are people newly released from prison after a long stay. Some have never seen a smart phone or used a computer. They are highly susceptible to scammers. Even those who have taken college courses while they are incarcerated have not been exposed to the world wide web. All their computer access is highly controlled.

I know of people who received their master's degree while incarcerated. They were totally overwhelmed by their email inbox upon release. Even highly intelligent individuals have fallen prey to scams and viruses they were exposed to in their inbox.

This bill allows us the protections we would want for ourselves, our children, and our loved ones.

Please protect Maine consumers by passing LD 1822 and by opposing LDs [1224](#), [1088](#), and [1284](#).

Thank-you,  
Jan

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