

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and honorable members of the Judiciary Committee, my name is Adam Graves. I am writing in support of LD 1941.

I've been asked what parole means to me. Parole would not only give me a second chance, but all of my loved ones especially my kids. My daughter has turned into a young woman who eventually will get married. Who else but her father should walk her down the aisle. Being there for my sons and daughters to help when grandchildren arrive. I would be there to help support rather than the other way around as it is right now while I am incarcerated.

Being on parole would open up the door for me to continue on my path to rehabilitation. I have currently exceeded the availability of programs, the DOC has to offer. I also can help those who are need of support for the same or similar addictions.

The amount of time that has been given to everyone for their offense, only matters to the individual. If that person recognizes their offense or offenses and begins their way to better living by attending classes or any program available at the facility where they are housed, they should be recognized. If the individual has no means of helping themselves to be better, then no, pool isn't for him or her.

Being a burden on the state costing \$117,000 a year for housing, staff, food, is a waste. I believe the individuals who are helping themselves can contribute better to society, if they are not stuck in a cell. Having something like parole to look forward to give residence, I hope and drive to become better people. The current situation gives no one ambition to do programming because everyone gets their 5 to 7 days a month, which isn't that much even with 30 your sentence, good time makes a little difference. Pearl would give a whole big Dore for all those striving to be better.

Thank you,  
Adam Graves  
Maine State Prison