Good afternoon Senator Carney, Representative, Kuhn, and esteemed members of the Judiciary Committee. My name is Zachary Haynes and I am providing testimony and support of LD 1941An Act to Implement Recommendations of the Commission to Examine Reestablishing Parole.

Prior to my incarceration, I was what you'd call a somewhat normal adolescent. I went to and graduated high school, played football, receive good grades, did normal things. We were a poor family, but I had what I needed and ate three meals a day. Then one day I started making poor choices, engaging in drug use, and criminal activity. I eventually got into some trouble, not having money for an attorney, I was appointed one.

When all was said and done, I was an 18 year old headed to prison for my very first time. It was very difficult with all the expenses to get by, so I struggled my way through my sentence.

Being in person has had very negative impacts on myself and my family. They struggled to keep money on my books for every day expenses. I was struggling with missing my family, holidays missed and time I would never get back. I was a very depressed and angry young adult. I am now doing my four-year prison prison sentence.. Missing out on memories and times with my family. They miss and love me very much so it is very hard all the way around.

I have decided to tumble myself and grow up. So I have made changes to myself, participate in various different programs along the way to pave away to rehab rehabilitation and become a better member of my community.

I believe we make mistakes. Also, I believe we deserve a chance to prove ourselves. This is why I believe Breau is a good idea to bring back into the main justice system. It will give us a second chance to prove we are human beings and learned from our mistakes.

I understand that my actions have caused harm, but I want to work to help undo that harm. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Please, if you would, vote to pass LD 1941

Thank you,
Zachary Haynes
Maine State Prison