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Senator Baldacci, Representative Matlack, and members of the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government:

An Act To Create Greater Accountability in the Office of County Sheriff Ld# 375

My name is Jeffrey Kerr and I'm from Farmington in the seat of Franklin Country. I start my testimony today with a question: would you go to work knowing that you were gonna be abused or harassed ?

When the sheriff of a country takes the law into his/hers own hands and is basically called a bully. Every four years people are elected for jobs mainly on the merit of trust but when this trust is broken what do the people do and who do they trust. When I went to school and beat someone up I got in trouble , well now someone one has beat someone up but no one can stop the sheriff and that is wrong. I used to believe when you do something wrong you go to jail but not in the case of the sheriff. This is why this bill is so important not even the country can report him. There is no accountability for the action of the sheriff at least not in his town or county. The only one that takes a look at his case is the Maine Criminal Academy in Waterville. Now whether or not they get around to it is a horse of a different color. If not they probably just get a fine or something and that would be great except when it is harmful to the people you serve. A sheriff is a hard job but saying that that does not excuse the sheriff from the law that he or she is enforcing. Ladies and Gentleman I ask you again would you go to work knowing you were gonna get harassed? This action is just wrong and will not be accepted by anyone and I would ask this committee to stop this action from happening ever again

Thank you for your time and I take any questions know if you have them,

Sincerely
Jeffrey Kerr