



# Maine Sheriffs' Association

*"One Team, One Mission"*

Sheriff Wayne Gallant, President

Sheriff Kevin Joyce, Vice-President – Sheriff Troy Morton, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President  
Sheriff William King, Secretary - Sheriff Todd Brackett, Treasurer – Sheriff Joel Merry, Immediate Past President –  
Sheriff Donna Dennison, Executive Board Member-at-Large - Mary-Anne LaMarre, Executive Director

---

April 20, 2017

## **L.D. 366 "An Act To Ensure Compliance with Federal Immigration Law by State and Local Entities"**

### **Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary**

Good afternoon Senator Keim, Representative Moonen and distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary. My name is Mary-Anne LaMarre. I am the Executive Director of the Maine Sheriffs Association.

The Maine Sheriffs met to discuss LD 366 and voted unanimously to oppose this bill.

LD 366 is a liability for county law enforcement. Immigration law is significantly different than state laws. As law enforcement professionals in Maine, we are not trained on immigration law. County law enforcement has no authority to investigate. Many of the immigration infractions are administrative and if we were to incarcerate on one of those infractions, we would be violating constitutional rights.

Many of Maine's jails are grossly overcrowded. Sheriffs are the front line for the devastating opioid epidemic that is ravaging the state. Sheriffs are tasked with managing inmates housed in our jails who are crippled with mental illness. Maine Jails consistently score remarkably high scores in our jail audits with less funding than we need. We are not trained nor do we have the capacity to take on this added burden.

Your Maine Sheriffs urge you to oppose LD 366. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mary-Anne LaMarre".

Mary-Anne LaMarre  
Executive Director  
Maine Sheriffs' Association