



Police Department



Mark Hathaway
Chief of Police

Testimony Before the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services on LD 20 April 24, 2015

Senator Brakey, Representative Gattine and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services. My name is Brad Johnston, Deputy Chief of the Bangor Police Department and I am testifying on behalf of the City of Bangor in support of LD 20, which is an Act to Improve Substance Abuse Treatment.

LD 20 would re-establish a drug court in the City of Bangor. Drug courts offer an effective alternative to jail with a blending of justice and treatment. Drug court participants agree to undergo intensive substance abuse treatment, case management, drug testing, supervision, and monitoring, and they report to regularly scheduled status hearings before a judge. Drug courts can also provide mental health treatment, trauma and family therapy, and job skills training, which help ensure lasting recovery from drug and alcohol addiction, allowing criminal justice resources to be freed up for use against violent and other serious criminal cases.

