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MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE
GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

June 11, 2026

Randall Liberty, Commissioner
Department of Corrections
111 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0111

Dear Commissioner Liberty,

The attached questions are offered in advance of the meeting of the Government Oversight Committee on June 17, 2026. It is possible that Members may pose questions not listed, but these are intended to provide some reasonable preview of areas of Committee interest as we consider the March 9, 2026, letter from Representative Alicia Collins and 22 other legislators concerning protection from abuse in at least one of the facilities under your purview. We understand from your Director of Government Affairs, Jill O'Brien, that MDOC Deputy Commissioner Anthony Cantillo and Maine Correctional Center Warden Ben Beal will appear for the Department, along with Director O'Brien.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

Handwritten signature of Craig V. Hickman in black ink.

Craig V. Hickman
Senate Chair

Handwritten signature of Anne-Marie Mastraccio in black ink.

Anne-Marie Mastraccio
House Chair

Attachment

cc: Members, Government Oversight Committee
Peter Schleck, Director, Office of Program and Evaluation and Government Accountability

Attachment

1. **How have DOC rules in relation to gender identity been working or not working?**
2. **What can you tell us about the concerns raised by Representative Collins and 22 legislative colleagues in their March 9, 2026, letter, which was presented and discussed at the May 20, 2026, meeting of the Government Oversight Committee?**
2. **What measures are in place to ensure that a resident who makes an allegation of abuse is protected from retaliation and unwarranted punishment?**
3. **How do you reconcile situations in which there are potentially competing claims that may or may not implicate disciplinary processes?**
4. **What plans or commitments have you made to respond to previous communications from legislators on this matter, and what is the status of any such commitments?**
5. **Has there been an increase in substantiated assault (of a sexual nature or otherwise) over time in the facility in question and if so, can you provide any details on why these incidents have been increasing and what has been done to address them?**
6. **Why is this not simply a matter of conduct to be addressed (or not) regardless of the gender identity of the potential victim or alleged perpetrator?**
7. **How does gender identity in any way impact or limit your response to safety or threat concerns, and your statutory obligation to protect residents from abuse?**
8. **What is the process, or what are the steps that are taken if any person residing in a correctional or detention facility under your purview alleges that they are being abused?**
9. **When a resident asserts that they have been threatened or abused, what actions are taken to protect that resident, including pending resolution?**
10. **What happens to a person found to be making threats or abusing another resident?**