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## 1. Would people be eligible for parole even if the sentencing judge didn't take parole into account (i.e., is parole retroactive)?

**Yes.** Maine's Supervised Community Confinement Program (SCCP) is the precedent. **Transition to community supervision is constitutionally sound.** Nothing about the person's sentence is changing, only the location where they are finishing that sentence. **Parole follows the exact same logic of constitutionality as does SCCP.**

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## 2. How many people would become eligible for parole?

LD 178 would make every incarcerated person eligible (**but not guarantee release**) after serving five years, or a full  $\frac{1}{3}$  of their sentence (whichever is longer), in prison. According to DOC statistics, out of 1,634 people incarcerated in November 2022, 1,176 people have sentences less than 10 years. We do not have the number for those with sentences between 5 and 10 years. The rest (**only 458**) have sentences over 10 years. This is the population for whom parole would be most impactful.

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## 3. Are we willing to compromise/raise the year of first eligibility above one year?

**Yes.** The Maine Sheriffs Association stated that people should have to serve some time to get programming before becoming eligible and thus able to demonstrate rehabilitation. We have changed the minimum eligibility to 5 years.

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## 4. If we have 'truth in sentencing' in Maine, why would we want parole?

Parole is **not incompatible with truth in sentencing.** Everyone would know when parole eligibility would begin at the time of sentencing.