



**Maine Legislature**  
2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

January 18, 2021

Commissioner Michael Sauschuck  
Department of Public Safety  
45 Commerce Drive, Suite 1  
104 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Commissioner Sauschuck,

As elected representatives, we are extremely concerned about recent posts and comments made by Maine Bureau of Capitol Police Chief Russell Gauvin on social media. Chief Gauvin expressed support for conspiracy theories that led to the violent insurrection against the government at the U.S. Capitol on January 6, 2021 and the death of two police officers. His words portray an inability to neutrally provide for the safety of every member of the Legislature.

At this historic juncture in which there are viable, coordinated threats against lawmakers, we find Chief Gauvin's comments reprehensible, and his apology utterly insufficient. We believe Police Chief Gauvin should be immediately placed on administrative leave while a full and transparent investigation takes place, and next steps are determined.

Those who commit to public service are held to a higher standard for public comments. The words of Police Chief Gauvin made in recent months and reported over several years have diminished our trust in his ability to serve in his current role. Many of us may never feel safe at the Maine State House facility again so long as Chief Gauvin is in charge of security or a member of the Capitol Police.

We believe in justice and the right to due process. Thank you for doing your due diligence during these perilous times.

Signed,

Rep. Kyle Bailey, Gorham

Speaker Ryan Fecteau, Biddeford  
House Majority Leader Michelle Dunphy,  
Old Town  
House Assistant Majority Leader Rachel  
Talbot Ross, Portland  
Senate President Troy Jackson, Aroostook  
Senate Majority Leader Nate Libby,  
Androscoggin  
Senate Assistant Majority Leader Eloise  
Vitelli, Sagadahoc  
Rep. Poppy Arford, Brunswick  
Sen. Donna Bailey, York  
Sen. Joseph M. Baldacci, Penobscot  
Sen. Cathy Breen, Cumberland  
Rep. Arthur Bell, Yarmouth  
Rep. Seth Berry, Bowdoinham  
Rep. Michael Brennan, Portland  
Sen. Stacy Brenner, Cumberland  
Rep. Heidi Brooks, Lewiston  
Rep. Mark Bryant, Windham  
Rep. Barbara Cardone, Bangor  
Sen. Anne Carney, Cumberland  
Sen. Ben Chipman, Cumberland  
Sen. Ned Claxton, Androscoggin  
Rep. Kristen Cloutier, Lewiston  
Rep. Benjamin T. Collings, Portland  
Rep. Lynn Copeland, Saco  
Rep. Lydia Crafts, Newcastle  
Rep. Margaret Craven, Lewiston  
Rep. Ed Crocket, Portland  
Rep. Scott Cuddy, Winterport  
Sen. Chip Curry, Waldo  
Sen. Mattie Daughtry, Cumberland  
Rep. Jan Dodge, Belfast  
Rep. Donna Doore, Augusta  
Rep. Vicki Doudera, Camden  
Rep. Jeffrey Evangelos, Friendship

Rep. Richard A. Evans, Dover-Foxcroft  
Rep. Valli Geiger, Rockland  
Rep. Traci Gere, Kennebunkport  
Rep. Lori K. Gramlich, Old Orchard Beach  
Rep. Nicole Grohoski, Ellsworth  
Rep. Thom Harnett, Gardiner  
Rep. Allison Hepler, Woolwich  
Rep. Patricia Hymanson, York  
Rep. Grayson Lookner, Portland  
Rep. Kristi Mathieson, Kittery  
Rep. Ann Matlack, St. George  
Rep. Gina Melaragno, Auburn  
Rep. Michele Meyer, Eliot  
Rep. Jay McCreight, Harpswell  
Rep. Genevieve McDonald, Stonington  
Rep. Rebecca Millett, Cape Elizabeth  
Rep. Victoria Morales, South Portland  
Rep. Laurie Osher, Orono  
Rep. Sarah Pebworth, Blue Hill  
Rep. Joe Perry, Bangor  
Rep. Teresa S. Pierce, Falmouth  
Rep. Lois Galgay Reckitt, South Portland  
Rep. Morgan Rielly, Westbrook  
Rep. Tiffany Roberts, South Berwick  
Rep. Melanie Sachs, Freeport  
Rep. Suzanne Salisbury, Westbrook  
Sen. Heather Sanborn, Cumberland  
Rep. Erin Sheehan, Biddeford  
Rep. Mike Sylvester, Portland  
Rep. Denise Tepler, Topsham  
Rep. Maureen Terry, Gorham  
Rep. Charlotte Warren, Hallowell  
Rep. Sophia B. Warren, Scarborough  
Rep. Lynne Williams, Bar Harbor  
Rep. Barb Wood, Portland  
Rep. Sam Zager, Portland

CC: Gov. Janet Mills (% Chief of Staff Jeremy Kennedy); Speaker Ryan Fecteau, Chief of Staff Megan Rochelo; House Majority Leader Michelle Dunphy, House Assistant Majority Leader Rachel Talbot Ross, Chief of Staff Katie Walsh; Senate President Troy Jackson, Chief of Staff BJ McCollister; Senate Majority Leader Nate Libby, Senate Assistant Majority Leader Eloise Vitelli, Chief of Staff Isabel Mullin