Jeanie Barnard, LCSW Yarmouth LD 1557

## Dear Committee Members:

I cannot overestimate how misguided and ineffective I consider this bill to be. As a psychotherapist with over 40 years of experience working with teachers I can tell you that the last thing school personnel want or need is to wonder who might be carrying a concealed weapon in school and if it might go off. This increases the real danger for everyone, and provides no added protection. What school personnel need is and deserve is help with keeping guns out of schools which would include methods we already have identified including background checks for all gun sales, red flag laws, getting rid of automatic weapons. This bill implies we have no recourse but to arm ourselves. This is simply not true.