

LD 2130 - An Act to Prohibit Unauthorized Paramilitary Training

Memorandum of Opposition

Date: January 28, 2024

To: Honorable Members of the Criminal Justice and Public Safety

From: Jonathan Martell

RE: LD 1619 - An Act to Improve Maine's Reproductive Privacy Laws

Members of the committee, I would like to express my Opposition of LD 2130 - An Act to Prohibit Unauthorized Paramilitary Training.

My Name is Jonathan Martell, from Sanford.

I am a Sanford City Councilor, Lifetime member of the Gun Owners of Maine, Legislative Officer for the Sanford Springvale Fish and Game Club, NRA Range Safety Officer, and lifelong firearms enthusiast.

While this bill may be well meaning to attempt to stem civil unrest, it is Unconstitutional on its face. Use and training of firearms is strictly protected by the 2nd Amendment and the Maine State Constitution. Which you swore to uphold, if you may remember.

Any firearm, or other devices mentioned are capable of causing harm. Whether directly or indirectly to one or more persons.

Any firearms or wilderness survival training will cover using a firearm and or making fire. A match or lighter is an incendiary device. Rubbing two sticks together will also make fire. Like firearms, vehicles and other items, it's all what is done with those items that constitutes a crime.

Books also cover these subjects. Do you also intend to ban survival and military manuals that have been in print for over 50 years at this point?

Further this is predicated on a vague determination of whether those instructing should reasonably know what someone is intending to do in the future of such training.

Shooting people when not in self defense is already illegal.

Arson is already illegal

Manufacturing explosives or blowing up objects with explosives is already illegal.

Again, this is a bill purely aimed at firearms and wilderness skill instructors to attempt to limit the safe and effective use of firearms to protect ones self or families.

Please stop the hate and blatant disregard for our Civil Rights, and vote ought not to pass for this bill.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Martell
Sanford, ME