

William Smith
Gorham
LD 2130

In Opposition of LD 2130 "An Act to Prohibit Unauthorized Paramilitary Training"

Senators and Representatives of the Committee On Criminal Justice and Public Safety, my name is Bill Smith and I live in Gorham. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in opposition of LD 2130.

Firstly the language of the summary of this bill and the direct language of the bill itself do not marry. It is stated generally in the summary that "[The bill] also prohibits a person from assembling with others for the purpose of practicing or being trained or instructed in the use, application or making of a firearm, explosive or incendiary device or in techniques capable of causing injury or death.". But the language of the bill only applies to any acts related to intent of "civil disorder".

Secondly the language of section 5 of the bill, allowing the Attorney General to bring a civil action against a person or group of persons due to a belief of violation of the content of this bill is a direct violation of the Due Process Clause of the 14th amendment.

Thirdly the country has a long history of private citizens training for defensive reasons in manners that also can be used in offensive manners. The Supreme Court of the United States in *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association, Inc. v. Bruen*, 597 U.S. (2022) clearly states that all laws related to the 2nd Amendment of the Bill of Rights must follow the text, history and tradition of the 2nd Amendment at the time of it's ratification. The United States has no history or limits on martial training in a lawful manner with lawfully owned weapons. Additionally stated in the opinion of the Supreme Court for this case the responsibility of ensuring all such laws do not unnecessarily infringe on the rights of American citizens falls directly on the State.

The wording in this bill is vague and open ended and in no way ensures or presents safe guards against government officials infringing on the rights of the citizens of Maine.

In light of the above I ask you members of the Committee to vote OUGHT NOT PASS for LD 2130.

Thank you.
Bill Smith
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