

Sarah Johnson  
Sanford  
LD 2238

3/03/24

Testimony of Sarah Johnson in support of LD 2238, An Act to Address Gun Violence in Maine by Requiring a Waiting Period for Certain Firearm Purchases  
Before The Judiciary Committee: March 7, 2024

Honorable Senator Carney, Representative Moonen, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Sarah Johnson, I live in Sanford and I am writing in support of LD 2238, An Act to Address Gun Violence in Maine by Requiring a Waiting Period for Certain Firearm Purchases.

I write in support of this legislation as it completely respects gun owner rights, the Second Amendment, and all of our individual rights while simultaneously reducing the potential harm of an impulse gun purchase.

Maine has a sadly high rate of suicide by gun. Public polling has shown that Mainers support a 72 hour waiting period. In this brief period, a violent impulse act that could have been due to anger or depression may be avoided. The Giffords Law Center cites data from a number of studies that show a waiting period will reduce gun deaths. Do we need to debate how many? For me, if this time allows 1 person to seek help and saves 1 life, it is a success.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sarah Johnson  
Sanford Maine