

Danny Emerson  
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LD 2224

I oppose LD 2224 "An Act to Strengthen Public Safety by Improving Maine's Firearm Laws and Mental Health System", and it "ought not to pass".

The current wording leaves an open door to a gun registry, which I oppose and is against federal law.

I do not feel that Maine's current law needs to be amended, but rather enforced, when it comes to our current community protection and weapons restriction orders, known to some as "Yellow Flag Laws". If the necessary funding is not in place to allow for the enforcement of current law, this is something that needs to be addressed at a budgetary level, rather than unconstitutionally restricting the rights of Maine citizens.

The Governor's proposals around background checks are equally as concerning. Background checks have never been shown to decrease violent crime in any way. Further infringing on the rights of law-abiding Maine residents by expanding background checks in Maine cannot be enforced unless a gun ownership registry is formed. Furthermore, criminals who know they will not pass a background check will not submit to that process. I oppose the expansion of background checks period.

To sum up, the Lewiston shooting was totally preventable if the current "Yellow Flag" law, which I see as model legislation for the entire country as it provides for "due process" (unlike any unconstitutional "Red Flag" law), was enforced. It was not. A huge stack of laws will not prevent crime if they aren't enforced. We just don't need another layer of laws!

Again, I oppose LD 2224 "An Act to Strengthen Public Safety by Improving Maine's Firearm Laws and Mental Health System", and it "ought not to pass".