



March 4, 2024

Honorable Senator Carney, Representative Moonen and members of the Judiciary Committee:

My name is Rev. Christine Dyke, I am Lead Minister at First Parish Church UCC in Gorham. I ask you to support LD2224 and its aim to have a background check through a licensed dealer for all gun purchases outside of family transfers or vintage sales.

Everyone who wants to operate a vehicle in this state must take an approved drivers training class and sit for a licensure exam. To receive a license, we must prove that we are capable and eligible to drive. That same requirement must be required of those seeking to own and operate what are deadly weapons. I have been impressed with the hunting community at their emphasis on safety and training, and I had young people in my congregation take great pride in their graduation from the hunting safety course. The least we can do is make sure that every gun owner has received a background check so that they can be proven eligible to own a firearm.

Please take this step.

I urge you to pass LD 2224 and make Maine a safer place.

Thank you

Rev. Christine Dyke
First Parish Congregational Church, UCC, Gorham