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Kennebunk
LD 2086

March 5, 2024

Dear Legislators,

Please support LD 2086, Carney LD 2038, Doudera LD 2119, Rotundo/ Gov. Mills 2224, and Rotundo LD 2238.

I am an educator with over twenty years of service in Maine and like most educators, live in fear everyday of a mass shooting at my school. Teachers and staff regularly trade stories of hiding rocks under their desks or other measures in their work spaces in case of an event. A principal once told me to ignore the hold in place reactions to a shooter and instead find the closest door and run in a zigzag for the woods. I routinely scan the students wondering which one is likely to fall to this trend due to their mental health struggles. Educators should be focused on teaching students the skills they need and developing relationships that encourage students to be their best. Having to adopt survival skills that are more appropriate for a war zone, is not fair for any of us.

Please work to:

1. Ban assault weapons.
2. Put in a strong extreme risk law, so-called Red Flag law to make it easier to remove weapons from a household where a family member is threatening to do harm to a family member or planning an external threat.
3. Full and complete background checks on every gun purchase (private or public).
4. Implement a 72 hour waiting period between purchase of a gun and taking possession 72 hours later. (This is for suicide prevention, 90% of

Please use the impetus the Lewiston tragedy provided and adopt these common sense laws. Thank you for your service and your attention.

Regards,