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Representative Moonen, Senator Carney, and members of the Judiciary Committee.

I am a senior at the university of Maine in their social work program. I am 23 years old, and every day I worry about myself or a loved one of mine getting shot. I am a transgender woman and am painfully aware of the staggering rates of violence against my community in this country. I know that an extra three day waiting period may not seem like it makes that much of a difference in the long run, but those three days could help someone intent on committing violence against themselves or others receive some kind of help or intervention or just give them a period of time to cool down without having easy access to a firearm. This bill could also go a long way in terms of suicide prevention as well. Suicide is far more impulsive than most people would realize, and instilling that three day waiting period could do a lot for someone with suicidal ideation who wanted to go out and buy a gun to commit suicide with. It gives them time to recover, to come down off of their ideation and seek some additional help with what they are struggling with. This bill would also serve to be an important trend setter when it comes to furthering gun safety in this state, which is something that I think is desperately needed in the aftermath of the Lewiston shootings. Please continue to advocate for this bill and for the safety of everyone who lives in Maine.