Olivia Matthews Northport LD 2238

Representative Moonen, Senator Carney, and Members of the Judiciary Committee, I am Olivia Matthews, a senior college student at the University of Maine. There have been many school shootings within the past years and they are starting to encroach closer and closer to home. I believe that making guns available after only a three-day waiting period will exponentially keep students and community folks safer. People who use guns to hunt I imagine will be thoroughly informed of such a change so they can be prepared with any season of hunting in mind. Though these 3 days may be seen as an inconvenience this could be the difference between the life of 1 or the lives of many. With shootings happening all over the nation, a 3 day period could put a halt to any type of anticipated/motivated plans to harm students or other community folks. This waiting period may have individuals realize that they should seek mental health services instead of going to a gun counter to relieve their emotional turmoil through devastating acts of harm. Another situation this would be applicable is in the scenario of suicide. Many times the thought to act on suicide is premeditated but the action itself is impulsive. Due to the lack of barriers surrounding one's ability to possess a firearm, it gives the individual no chance to rethink the decision to end their life through the use of a firearm. Availitibility is one of the most significant factors in one's ability to end their life and these 3 days of grace has the ability to save lives. Please think of this during your consideration, thank you.