

To the honorable members of the Judiciary Committee:

My name is Harold Van Lonkhuyzen, from Rockport.

I write in support of LD 2238. I am a psychiatrist working in community mental health and deal daily with the risks and sequelae of suicide and violence.

A 72-hour waiting period has been shown to reduce the risk of both suicide and homicide. Suicides represent the majority of firearm-associated deaths and can often be impulsive. This is a common-sense law that places no significant burden on buyer or seller and will contribute to real improvement in public health.

I am grateful for your efforts to improve public health and safety, and reduce the burden imposed on our state by inadequately regulated firearms.