

Sally Chappell  
Pax Christi Maine  
LD 2238

Sen. Carney, Rep. Moonen and honorable members of the Judiciary Committee:  
My name is Sally Chappell; I live in Bridgton and am a member of Pax Christi Maine. On behalf of Pax Christi Maine, the Catholic peace and justice movement with members throughout the State of Maine, I'd like to testify in favor of LD 2238, An Act to Address Gun Violence in Maine by Requiring a Waiting Period for Certain Firearm Purchases.

Both suicides and homicides begin in the minds of people who are angry, upset, depressed and/or fraught with any number of emotions. As children, we were often taught to count to ten before we spoke or acted in ways we would later regret. A waiting period to buy a firearm is a sensible way to prevent rash acts. As we live our lives, waiting is normal. How important it is then to incorporate a waiting period to buy a gun, an instrument with lethal potential. With Pax Christi's firm commitment to non-violence, a waiting period on gun purchases can make a difference between life and death. Let us join the twelve other states that have waiting periods for gun purchases.

Thank you for your time reading and considering this testimony. Pax Christi Maine urges you to vote "ought to pass" on LD 2238.