

To the members of the Judiciary Committee,

I am writing to you today with testimony against bills LD 2224 and 2238.

Both the Red Flag provision and the Universal Background Check have already been voted down by this legislature, and Universal Background Checks were recently voted down by Maine voters at the ballot box. The electorate has spoken. As representatives of the electorate, our expectation is that you will abide by the rule of law and the will of the people

These laws strip citizens of their Second Amendment rights without due process based on weak and nebulous standards. If passed, Maine's Red Flag law could strip Mainers of their Constitutional rights without a hearing and based on hearsay for up to 30 days. It does not include any penalties for erroneous accusations, allowing for an open season against gun owners in Maine.

If passed, LD 2238 would deny the right of self-defense to abuse victims or any individual facing an imminent threat. Additionally, waiting periods would destroy Maine's hunting tourism industry because guides would be unable to provide hunters with firearms and local firearm dealers would be unable to sell and transfer firearms in a timely manner.

I urge the Judiciary Committee to arrest government encroachment on Constitutionally guaranteed rights.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Hazard