

Alicia Lawson
Winthrop
LD 2238

Members of the Judiciary Committee:

My name is Alicia Lawson, I'm a Winthrop resident and mother of 5.

Next month will mark the 20th anniversary of a domestic violence assault that changed my life.

It was so severe, that injury required two separate surgeries, a closed reduction fracture and an open septoplasty, a result from my daughter's father punching me in the face, as I held her in my arms. She was just 9 months old at the time.

Looking back, Im glad it was me, he could have missed and killed her.

I was once a fearful person, but I am no longer thanks to the firearms training I've received. I now walk with confidence because I have the knowledge and tools needed to protect myself and my children. Firearms training has empowered me to take responsibility for my own personal safety.

Vulnerable women need real solutions, real tools to help them. A 3 day waiting period is senseless and irresponsible and puts lives of vulnerable women at risk when they are left defenseless.

There is a reason why Ronald Reagan said, "The gun has been called the great equalizer, meaning that a small person with a gun is equal to a large person...but it is a great equalizer in another way, too.

It insures that the people are the equal of their government whenever that government forgets that it is servant and not master of the governed.

I believe that the right of the citizen to keep and bear arms must not be infringed if liberty in America is to survive."

I ask this committee to not pass LD 2238, it infringes upon our second amendment rights and puts vulnerable women at risk.