

Phyllis Chinlund
Brunswick
LD 2283

Dear Senator Carney, and Distinguished Members of the Judiciary Committee.
My name is Phyllis Chinlund. I live in Brunswick, and am a member of the
Thornton Oaks Social Justice Group. I am asking you to support LD 2283, a true
extreme risk protection order.

As a retired clinical social worker, I am very concerned about limiting action to
remove guns from people at risk to those with a mental health diagnosis. In my 25
years experience with people with mental health issues, the only violence I was aware
of was one suicide. Had family members of that individual been able to report him,
his life might have been saved. All the others could have been harmed by the stigma
the yellow flag law inflicts on people with a mental health diagnosis. People in crisis
such as from job loss or relationship breakups are just as likely to resort to violence.
Let us bring Maine in line with all the other states that permit the temporary
removal of firearms from people who are at risk to themselves or others, no matter the
cause.

Thanks to all of you for your many hours of thoughtful consideration of this and
other important gun safety legislation.

Phyllis Chinlund