

Dear Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee,

As a survivor of gun violence, it is my hope and prayer that you will vote in support of *LD 2283 An Act to Enact the Crisis Intervention Order Act to Protect the Safety of the Public* (Extreme Risk Protection Order).

My father was a veteran of World War II, and he fought in some of the worst battles of the Pacific, including Iwo Jima. He returned from his experiences in World War II with what we know today as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). He also came home with a serious addiction to alcohol.

During my childhood, I experienced terrifying moments of fear and violence when my father would get very drunk and take out loaded guns and threaten to kill us – and sometimes threaten to kill himself. My brothers and I found places to hide from him, and sometimes we would escape and run off to my grandmother's or friends' homes. One day my youngest brother didn't get out of harm's way fast enough and ended up in the hospital because of my father's violence.

If we had had an effective red flag law like LD 2283 when I was growing up, we would not have had to live in fear of my father shooting us during a drunken rage. I know that there are many other people out there with stories and experiences just like mine.

I have lived with the emotional and psychological scars of that gun violence for my entire life. My brother also has physical scars. No one should have to live with this. We can easily make so many people's lives safer by passing LD 2283.

I know that if my father were alive today, and sober, he would ask you to pass this critically important and life saving bill too.

Please have the courage to do this.

Thank you,

Jill Linzee
New Harbor