

Tagan Vance
Kennebunk
LD 2283

I am a college student from Kennebunk who will graduate next month from USM with a B.A. in Elementary Education. I would like you to pass LD 2283, because it will help to protect schools from future school shooters. Having worked with two classes of kindergarten students in my final year of college, I can't imagine putting those sweet kids through a situation where they have to hide from a shooter inside their classroom. The 21 states that have passed extreme risk protection laws have all seen a drop in school shootings, along with a reduction in suicides and domestic shootings, because it allows families who have a loved one experiencing a crisis to request that firearms be temporarily removed. I know you are considering other bills such as a 72 hour wait, enhanced background checks, and a prohibition on sales of military-type firearms. Please pass all of these bills, because they work together to make our schools and our lives safer. While I am glad Governor Mills enacted the yellow flag bill, we saw that it can't stop people like the shooter from Lewiston from killing and injuring scores of people in just a few minutes. A law like LD 2283 could have done that. Thank you for giving the opportunity to submit testimony online, as I will be teaching students at the time of the public hearing (weather permitting).