Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary
Friday, April 5, 2024

Testimony in Support of LD 2283, "An Act to Enact the Crisis Intervention Order Act to Protect the Safety of the Public"

Good afternoon Senator Carney, Representative Moonen and distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary. My name is Jamie Hollander, and I have lived in Lewiston for the past four years while attending Bates College. I gave testimony a few weeks ago in support of the "Safer Maine" bill package, and I write to you today to give my support for LD 2283.

Growing up in the US, I was constantly aware of the threat of gun violence. Most kids in my generation can tell you the exact procedure each of their schools had prepared in the event of an active shooter. The abstract threat that I had always prepared for became a reality on October 25th. I was sitting on the first floor of the Bates library when I received the first text, "BTW. Be careful. Just heard there might be an active shooter in Lewiston". Shortly after, my friends and I decided to seek shelter on the third floor (our training from school kicked in). I texted my parents, "there's an active shooter less than 10 minutes from campus. I'm safe, please don't worry about me." A daughter should never have to send that text, a parent should never have to receive it. I spent the next 10 hours in the library, and the days that followed, fighting off fear, despair, anger, and frustration as we grappled with the profound loss experienced by our community.

The crisis intervention order proposed in LD 2283 will protect the lives of Mainers by creating a streamlined process through which law enforcement and family members can seek a court order to temporarily remove firearms from loved ones who are a danger to themselves and others.

I urge you to please vote LD 2283 "Ought to Pass." Thank you for your time and consideration, and thank you for your work on gun safety thus far. The time is now to pass meaningful gun safety legislation in Maine.

Jamie Hollander
Lewiston