

Gail Witherill
Cumberland
LD 486

March 15, 2025

Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee
Chairs Senator Beebe-Center and Representative Hasenfus
RE: LD 486

Dear Senator Beebe-Center, Representative Hasenfus and the 4 Members of the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee,
My name is Gail Witherill, I live in Cumberland, and I am writing in opposition to LD 486..An Act to Remove the Duty of an Individual Exercising Self-Defense to Safely Retreat or Abstain from Performing Certain Acts upon Demand....the so called 'Stand Your Ground' bill. Diffusion of a possible altercation is the way to prevent deaths, and everyone in a potential altercation has the responsibility to step away or retreat. Taking away this responsibility to retreat often encourages people to take the law into their own hands rather than having law enforcement professionals handle it. States that have 'Stand Your Ground' bills have seen an 8% increase in homicides. We don't need that in Maine. Please vote No.

Sincerely,
Gail Witherill
Cumberland