Deborah Murray Portland LD 486 Deborah Dunn Murray 104 North St, Portland, Maine 04101

March 16, 2025

Chairs and Members of the Joint Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety 132nd Maine Legislature State House Augusta, ME

Re: LD 486

Dear Chairs and Committee Members,

Please accept my written comments in lieu of my appearance before your committee on Monday, March 17, 2025.

I respectfully ask you to vote that this dangerous bill OUGHT NOT TO PASS.

Never in my lifetime have I experienced such a general feeling among Americans of hate, distrust and ugly rhetoric. It is distressing to see this creep into our fine and decent state of Maine. This bill would be another tool for Mainers to act in a moment of anger or fear versus taking the more logical approach of counting to ten or talking an issue through.

We already have laws to defend oneself on the books. This bill takes self defense too far. Please do not add fuel to the fire by supporting LD 486.

Sincerely,

Deborah D. Murray