

Testimony in Opposition to LD 486

Senator Beebe-Center, Representative Hasenfus, and Members of the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety,

My name is Grace Leavitt. I live in Raymond. I urge you to oppose 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." Passage of such a law would result in an increase in deaths and injuries (report in the Journal of Human Resources). While Maine is known as a 'safe place to live,' we are seeing an increase in incidents of gun violence (Maine Sunday Telegram, March 16, 2025). LD 486 would only serve to worsen the situation. We need better, stronger gun safety legislation in our beautiful state. We do not need and we do not want 'stand your ground' laws that would make things worse. Please vote 'ought NOT to pass' on LD 486.

Grace Leavitt
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