

Anne M. Gallaudet
Scarborough, Maine

March 22, 2025

Re: LD 998: An Act Regarding an Employer's Authority to Prohibit an Employee from Storing a Firearm in the Employee's Vehicle

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn and Honorable Members of the Joint Judiciary Committee

I appreciate this opportunity to address you on this important matter. My name is Anne. Gallaudet. I am a resident of Scarborough, Maine. I am writing *in opposition of* LD 998.

This bill does not improve upon current law and, indeed, would substantially reduce public safety. Current law already prohibits an employer from barring an employee from housing a firearm in the employee's vehicle on employer property if the employee has a permit to carry a concealed firearm, the vehicle is locked, and the firearm is not visible. This bill, by eliminating the requirement that the employee have a valid permit to carry a concealed firearm removes the enormous benefits of the permitting process – to ensure the firearm owner is of “good moral character” and has knowledge of handgun safety. These two factors are key to maintaining public safety. The permit requirements produce substantial protections for both the employer and employees including the firearm owner. The current law fairly balances the right of employees to self-defense with the employer's right to maintain a safe workplace for all.

Thank you for considering my comment. I urge you to vote “ought not to pass” on LD 998.

Anne Gallaudet, Scarborough, ME