

Emilia Toth
Portland
LD 998

TO: The Honorable Anne Carney
Representative Kuhn
Members of the Judiciary Committee

DATE: March 26, 2025

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

Good morning, Senator Carney and Representative Kuhn,
My name is Emilia Toth. I'm a resident of Portland. I have been closely following the progress of the Maine's Gun Safety Legislation, and I am testifying in opposition of LD 998.

Currently, an employer is not permitted to prohibit an employee from storing a firearm in the employee's vehicle if the employee has a valid permit to carry a concealed firearm, as long as the vehicle is locked, and the firearm is stored out of sight. This bill would remove the specification that the employee must have a valid permit to carry a concealed firearm, which also takes away the employer's ability to prohibit firearms in any employee vehicles.

The process of permitting gun owners establishes that that owner has "good moral character," a knowledge of gun safety and training, and fit background for owning a firearm. The passage of this bill would remove vital protections for employers and employees. Additionally, gun theft from cars is a rapidly growing problem and could easily get guns into the wrong hands. This would make Maine communities extremely unsafe and constantly in danger.

We need to make our gun safety legislation tighter and safer, not looser. I urge you to vote Ought Not to Pass on LD 998.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,
Emilia Toth
Portland, ME
March 26, 2025