

Dane Courtois
Hiram
LD 1120

Dear Maine Judiciary Committee,

I am Dane Courtois, a Hiram resident who stands unyielding against government oppression, and I submit this testimony to condemn LD 1120, An Act to Promote the Secure Storage of Firearms. This bill is a vile intrusion into our private lives, a gut-punch to our Second Amendment freedoms cloaked in false promises of safety. I urge you to shred this affront to liberty and protect the rights of Maine's self-reliant citizens.

LD 1120's push for "secure storage" is a Trojan horse for control, demanding Mainers lock up their firearms like museum relics rather than tools of survival. The Second Amendment is a living guarantee, not a suggestion subject to Augusta's whims. Forcing us to cage our guns assumes we're too foolish to handle our own affairs—a patronizing insult to the hardworking folks who keep Maine running. My right to defend myself isn't up for debate, and no bureaucrat gets to rewrite the Constitution with storage rules.

The irony here is sickening: the state claims locking guns will stop crime, yet criminals, by their nature, ignore locks and laws alike. A 2018 RAND study found no conclusive link between storage mandates and reduced gun theft or violence—pure speculation dressed as policy. Meanwhile, this bill endangers honest Mainers. Picture a shopkeeper facing a late-night threat, hands shaking as they scramble to unlock a safe, or a single parent fumbling with a trigger lock while danger closes in. LD 1120 doesn't promote safety—it promotes vulnerability, turning split-second decisions into deadly delays.

This mandate also reeks of economic punishment. Storage devices—safes, cables, lockboxes—cost money that many can't spare. Forcing Mainers to buy them is a stealth tax on our rights, hitting hardest at those scraping by. Maine's small businesses, like sporting goods stores, don't need the state rigging markets to push overpriced gear; they need customers free to make their own choices. This isn't progress—it's coercion.

As a libertarian, I see government's role as a servant, not a master. Our founders kept muskets at the ready, not padlocked to please tyrants. Federal courts are gutting these gun-grabbing schemes—don't let Maine lag behind. LD 1120 is a constitutional mockery, unworthy of our state's fierce spirit.

I call on you to reject LD 1120 entirely. Safeguard our freedom to bear arms without state shackles and keep Maine true to its independent soul. Thank you for reviewing my testimony.

In defense of liberty,
Dane Courtois