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LD 208

I am writing to express my support for LD 208 An Act to Eliminate the 72-hour Waiting Period on Firearm Purchases. The supporters of the 72 hour waiting period law have characterized the legislation as a cooling off period to prevent suicide while at the same time allowing an exemption for law enforcement. An NIH report from 2021 indicates that law enforcement personnel in the United States have a 54% higher rate of suicide when compared with the general public.

<https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC8056254/pdf/nihms-1691309.pdf>

If the 72 hour waiting period law is actually about suicide prevention, why does the law exempt the group with the higher rate of suicide?

I believe the 72 hour waiting period law was passed to impose an unconstitutional barrier on the general public by restricting citizens from exercising their civil rights. Even Governor Mills acknowledged concerns about burdening constitutionally protected activities in allowing LD 2238 to pass without her signature. On February 13, 2025 a federal judge ruled that the 72 hour waiting period law was unconstitutional and just last week on April 10, 2025 a federal appeals court refused to reinstate the law. LD 208 will abolish the infringement on civil rights and ought to pass.