

Richard Shapiro
Brunswick
LD 525

My name is Richard Shapiro. I am from Brunswick, and am testifying in favor of LD 525.

Please vote in favor of this common sense proposal.

As it stands, in the state of Maine, a person who defends herself from a home invasion or armed robbery, in her own house, in the middle of the night, commits a serious crime if her house is within an arbitrary 500' distance from a school.

This proposed law exempts people who are forced to use deadly means to defend their lives and families from prosecution that could occur simply because they live within the arbitrary 500' distance from a school. It applies in no other circumstance.

The law would do no more than remove the specter of unjust prosecution for those forced to defend their lives.

Please remember that there are numerous laws that penalize any negligent or criminal discharge of a firearm. In light of this, the current law is both perverse and unjust. And, solving this injustice endangers no-one.

Thank you.