



June 11, 2025

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn and distinguished members of the Judiciary Committee:

My name is Jan Collins, I am Assistant Director of Maine Prisoner Advocacy Coalition (MPAC) an organization committed to ethical, positive, and humane changes in Maine's prison system.

I am here in support of LD 1378 An Act to Protect Maine Communities by Enacting the Extreme Risk Protection Order Act.

My support is informed by my personal experience, a cousin who took his own life, two students who also used a gun to end their lives and the many people I have met who used a gun to take someone else's life, sometimes their best friend, and ended up forfeiting their own.

Describing the method of death, the moment of death, or the measure of loss cannot capture the lasting devastation that shadow's the survivors of gun violence for the remainder of their lives. It does not reveal the concentric circles of harm that move out from the decisive moment; children without a parent, parent's without a child, lover's missing half their heart and all of their hopes.

What this bill provides is an opportunity to avoid regret.

It harms no one.

If the provisions of this bill works perfectly, we may never, likely will never, know all the people who will be spared.

Thank-you,  
Jan

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