

Senator Beebe-Center and Rep. Salisbury, and distinguished members of the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety. My name is Nacole Palmer, and I live in Bowdoin, Maine.

I stand before you now in support of LD 22, An Act to Impede the Transfer of Firearms to Prohibited Persons. This is a bill that may seem unnecessary, but that would only be because it falls under the category of, "how is this not already a law?" Making it illegal to knowingly give a gun to a prohibited person is already federally prohibited, but it is inexplicably not prohibited under the state law in Maine. There are tons of things that are prohibited under federal law as well as under state law, and the overlap is necessary from a legal perspective because it gives prosecutors more options when faced with people who have knowingly given a gun to people who can't pass a background check.

This bill, in combination with the other gun safety bill before you today, would strengthen the ability of law enforcement to protect our citizens, and create a stronger fabric against gun violence here in Maine.

I urge you to vote ought to pass for LD 22, and I thank you for your consideration.