

8 May 2023

Senator Beebe-Center, Rep. Salisbury and members of this Committee.

I am here today in support of LDs 551, 624, 943, 1451 and 1561 and request an Ought to Pass for these bills.

LD551 Returning the right of self defense and not being arrested for it because you live too close to a school seems to be a commonsense thing to do. The right to live should have never been taken from them.

LD624 History is full of examples where government lists of certain people have been subject to being misused, subjugated and sometimes even eventually being murdered or imprisoned for being on that list. Even here in Maine there is recent example where of a list of Concealed Carry permit holders was being sought by the BDN for purpose of publishing it in the public domain. That was done in NY and the permit holders there were harassed, stalked and threatened because they owned guns. It also provided a public map for thieves and robbers where they knew guns were kept, and that, is never a good thing!

LD943 Much the same reasons as above plus, no civilian company should ever have access to a data base like this. Such a thing would be ripe for misuse.

LD 1451 I find this to be quite similar to a bill being heard this afternoon and I support both of them.

LD1561 I wholly support this bill. I have a brother that is not and never was a violent person. His right to hunt with a firearm was stripped over 40 years ago when he was young and maybe not so smart. He fibbed to an officer which had his charges elevated for a minor crime. He has raised children that are good, contributing members of society, just like their father. He's never been arrested since and I believe, has earned back his rights.

Respectfully,

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