



## **SAM-ILA**

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### Testimony In Opposition

LD 2119, An Act to Support Suicide Prevention by Allowing the Voluntary Waiver of Firearm  
Rights

Before the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary

Presented by David Trahan, Executive Director of the Sportsman's Alliance of Maine, Institute for  
Legislative Action (SAM-ILA)

March 5, 2023

Senator Carney, Representative Moonen, members of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary, my name is David Trahan. I am the Executive Director of the Sportsman's Alliance of Maine - Institute for Legislative Action (SAM-ILA), testifying in opposition to LD 2119, An Act to Support Suicide Prevention by Allowing the Voluntary Waiver of Firearm Rights.

The Sportsman's Alliance of Maine, Institute for Legislative Action (SAM-ILA), is in opposition to LD 2119, An Act to Support Suicide Prevention by Allowing the Voluntary Waiver of Firearm Rights.

Suicide is a very personal and intimate act and nearly impossible for anyone to predict or prevent. When an individual is suicidal, it can be for a hundred different reasons. It is early intervention and family support, as well as access to mental health services or substance abuse programs that prevent suicide. Taking somebody's firearm rights, whether voluntary or involuntary, is a serious action with life threatening consequences.

A person who is committed to taking their own life will find a way. In addition, we have concerns around how activist DA's will use this new law. It certainly will be used to leverage away firearm rights during the plea-bargaining process. We also question whether the National Instant Criminal Check System should be used in this manner.

Thank you,

David Trahan, Executive Director, SAM-ILA