

Andee O'Brion Reardon  
Auburn, Maine

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Maine resident my whole life minus leaving for college, mother, former foster parent/adoptive mother, teacher and runs A.W.E. (Academy of Women Empowerment)

Women For Gun rights State Director

This bill would create a legal avenue for Maine residents to waive their Second Amendment rights and be prohibited from purchasing a firearm.

As someone who works with abuse survivors, this law can be dangerous in many ways.

We are asking someone in momentary crisis to make a long term or permanent decision. If gun owners are under the impression they'll be expected to sign their rights away, the rights they use to protect their loved ones, so they can receive care when life is a little too much and they need some help to sort it out, many will think twice about getting that help.

Many Mainers don't think they need a firearm, until they do. Asking someone to give that right away when they may not feel they need it could put them in a dangerous situation down the road.

The language is vague and doesn't explain how it works, how long the rights are removed and what process would be needed to have those rights returned to them.

Is someone going to be denied treatment if they don't sign this paperwork removing their 2<sup>nd</sup> amendment rights?

Yesterday I had the honor to sit in the Lewiston Town Hall and listen in person as Survivors from the Lewiston shooting spoke to the safety committee about what happened and answered questions. They were all so brave. I encourage all of you to take the time and listen to that meeting. What this bill is asking would do nothing to prevent what happened in Lewiston. We already have laws and processes to stop people like Card. The ball was dropped, the buck was passed and what happened in Lewiston should never have happened.

The investigations and reports aren't even out yet and you're trying to push more laws that won't help.

We need more mental health resources.

HOLD MY GUNS is a great program that would help in this situation.

I was contacted by a women who hears voices and can't get a mental health practitioner to help her because no one is taking patients. Let's fix the problems that exist, enforce laws we already have and stop making it hard for Mainers to protect themselves when Lewiston proved gun free zones kill... because only the bad guys have guns in them.

I I oppose LD 2119 " An Act to Support Suicide Prevention by Allowing the Voluntary Waiver of Firearm Rights", and it "ought not to pass".