

Senator Carney, Representative Moonen, members of the Judiciary Committee.

I am Dr. Allen Browne. I am a retired pediatric/trauma surgeon. I served in the U.S. Army for three years. I was an occasional hunter. I live in Falmouth.

I am testifying in favor of LD2224 and LD2238. These bills are about gun safety. They are about gun safety for gun owners, people who chose not to own guns, adults, and children.

We have things in our daily lives that were unthinkable 50 years ago - yes, I do remember then - and 100 years ago - no, I am not that old.

50 years ago it was impossible to get in-depth information about a person in 72 hours. We had to call or mail different people so they could look them up in their card file. and get back to us. With computerized data bases and the internet we can get more information about a person in hours, if not minutes or seconds - just Google them.

100 years ago, high velocity, high capacity magazine weapons did not exist. Gangsters used rapid fire weapons with large magazines, but they were not high velocity. The use by gangsters still lead to the outlawing of "machine guns". Now we have very portable automatic rifles that fire high velocity bullets and can be loaded with high capacity magazines.

We now know a 72 hour period is enough for many people to cool down, get their temper under control, have a crisis subside, and reconsider what they had originally been planning to do with the gun they just purchased.

Everyone knows the destructive power of guns. When a loved one or friend begins to act oddly or in a way that might be dangerous to that person or others, we know the destruction that can occur from guns that they may possess. Being able to go to a judge, explain the situation, and get those weapons temporarily removed while the loved one or friend's situation improves can save lives from mass shootings, lives from suicides, and lives from other gun violence..

These bills are about gun safety. They just make sense for all of us.

Thank you for this opportunity. I would be happy to answer any questions you might have.

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