



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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## **Austin L. Theriault**

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**Senator Carney, Representative Moonen, and members of the committee:**

**My name is Austin Theriault, and I have the great fortune to represent House District 1 -- the Crown of Maine in beautiful Aroostook County. I'm here to testify in opposition to LD 2224 and LD 2238.**

I'll put it very plainly:

We should be focused on systemic reform of our mental health system.

My constituents and I do not support the concept of limiting law-abiding Mainers' Second Amendment rights, and this bill would do just that.

Powerful out-of-state interests have long tried to convince this body to limit Second Amendment rights.

I am hopeful we Mainers continue to reject those interests.

There's a clear path available to us:

First, let's leave the Second Amendment alone.

Second, let's reallocate existing spending to build out additional mental health resources.

And third, let's focus on enforcing existing laws already on the books. That clearly is not happening right now, and it should be.

That's a path almost all Mainers can get behind.

Austin L. Theriault  
State Representative

**Section 14. Corporal punishment under military law.** No person shall be subject to corporal punishment under military law, except such as are employed in the army or navy, or in the militia when in actual service in time of war or public danger.

**Section 15. Right of petition.** The people have a right at all times in an orderly and peaceable manner to assemble to consult upon the common good, to give instructions to their representatives, and to request, of either department of the government by petition or remonstrance, redress of their wrongs and grievances.

**Section 16. To keep and bear arms.** Every citizen has a right to keep and bear arms and this right shall never be questioned.

**Section 17. Standing armies.** No standing army shall be kept up in time of peace without the consent of the Legislature, and the military shall, in all cases, and at all times, be in strict subordination to the civil power.

**Section 18. Quartering of soldiers on citizens.** No soldier shall in time of peace be quartered in any house without the consent of the owner or occupant, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

**Section 19. Right of redress for injuries.** Every person, for an injury inflicted on the person or the person's reputation, property or immunities, shall have remedy by due course of law; and right and justice shall be administered freely and without sale, completely and without denial, promptly and without delay.

**Section 20. Trial by jury.** In all civil suits, and in all controversies concerning property, the parties shall have a right to a trial by jury, except in cases where it has heretofore been otherwise practiced; the party claiming the right may be heard by himself or herself and with counsel, or either, at the election of the party.

**Section 21. Private property, when to be taken.** Private property shall not be taken for public uses without just compensation; nor unless the public exigencies require it.

**Section 22. Taxes.** No tax or duty shall be imposed without the consent of the people or of their representatives in the Legislature.

**Section 23. Title of nobility prohibited; tenure of offices.** No title of nobility or hereditary distinction, privilege, honor or emolument, shall ever be granted or