

TESTIMONY AGAINST LD2224 AND LD2238
ACTS TO LIMIT FIREARM POSSESSION IN MAINE

Senator Carney, Committee members of the Judiciary.

My name is Andy Levesque from Gorham.
Growing up in the small town in Rumford I never thought much of gun violence.
Most of my classmates proudly displayed their rifles especially during hunting season.
I, on the other hand, was more of a pacifist.

In those days, Rumford was a tight knit community where everyone helped each other.
My father taught my brothers and I how to safely use a firearm which helped me while serving in the
US ARMY.

But I never had to worry about any harm towards me, that is until I went to school in Boston.
The culture shock of living in the city showed me not only the wonderful experiences of meeting new
people and places but also the evil that exists.

I had to become "Street Smart" and cautious every time I walked in public.
It was the first time that I had ever been shot at... and from that time I started to develop a more
cautious lifestyle.... one where I was comfortable with my surrounding and not fearful in anyway.

The Army enhanced my survival skills which I still use today.

Limiting access to Scary Looking Rifles will not help the increased violence in our state.

What you should be doing is address the mental illnesses that is increasing in each of our counties.

When the State allows a child to be murdered before and after birth it sends a message that life has
no value in our state.

Rather than spending hundreds of thousands of tax payer dollars on illegal immigrants entering our
state wouldn't it be wiser to spend it on our citizens who could benefit from a better mental health
system?

When Cain killed Able God did not blame the rock.

We can't blame guns every time it is used in a crime.
There have been many instances where a firearm was used to prevent a tragedy.

I urge you vote OUGHT NOT TO PASS on LD 2224 and LD2238

Thank You
Andy Levesque