

Testimony against LD2238

Bruce Ashmore

President Bucks Mills R & G Club

Bucksport Me

Greetings to the Chairs and members of the committee.

I am requesting an ONTP for LD2238 for multiple reasons.

The first of which is that waiting periods have been tried in numerous states in the past and have not been directly related to any measurable effect.

They do, however, have a very measurable effect on those trying to purchase a firearm. They cause at risk persons to be defenseless and vulnerable. Often this is right when they need to protect themselves the most.

They also have a huge, very measurable fiscal effect on businesses and multiple nonprofits throughout the state. This includes VFW's, Rod and gun clubs, American Legion posts, Shriners and multiple others that use these shows to help fund numerous community support activities all over our great state.

My club has a gun show scheduled for next weekend. This show is the single largest fund-raising event for us every year just as it is many others.

If this law were to pass it would pretty much wipe out shows in in Maine and possible put some businesses and nonprofits out of business.

Our show is in Orland and is one of the smaller ones with only 47 tables. Many other shows have 100-150 tables. It generates approximately \$100,000 for the vendors and thousands of dollars for our club. The larger shows generate 2-3 times the amounts.

If we have an attendee from Rockland come to the show and buy a firearm from a vendor that comes from Houlton, they go through a background check and legally complete the purchase. If this law were to pass, the person would then have to wait until the following week and then drive from Rockland to Houlton. That is 369 miles which would take around 8 hours travel time. That sale would no longer happen, the customer isn't going to do that.

That scenario is not a seldom thing either, Maine is a large state and getting from one place to another and back can quite often take hours. Many of our vendors do a large portion of their business by traveling to these shows, this law would very likely put some of them out of business.

I strongly request that LD2238 be voted as Ought not to pass.