

Senator Carney, Representative Mooney, and esteemed members of the Judiciary Committee, my name is Kate Kalajainen from Brunswick, and I am here today to urge you to pass LD 2283, I'm here today to urge you to support LD ~~2283~~. I'm a teacher. When I started my teaching career back in the late 90s in NYC, we didn't have active shooter drills or lockdowns. The same was true during the years I spent teaching overseas in American International Schools. But since moving to Maine and teaching here, most recently in kindergarten, I have had to experience lockdowns and shelter in place orders. It is terrifying and upsetting to have to sit in faculty meetings and trainings and imagine what we would do should someone with a gun show up at the school. And it is unconscionable that 5 years olds or any children for that matter, have to practice what to do when a "bad guy" shows up. Maine is a state that hunts. This bill is not trying to take guns away from responsible gun owners. It is trying to create a way to safely and effectively prevent people who are unstable or in crisis from having them and harming themselves or others. I urge the committee to vote "Ought to Pass." on LD 2283.