

April 4, 2024

Senator Carney, Representative Moonen, honorable and distinguished members of the Judiciary Committee:

I am a gun owner and enjoy hunting and the right to protect myself and family. I would like to express my support for all gun legislation including LD 2283.

LD 2283 is so important to me personally. My son was just a trigger pull away taking his life during a time of depression and drug and alcohol abuse. This was with a pistol that was way too easy to buy but could have been taken away if the correct laws were in place at that time.

I am not threatened by this legislation as I believe other gun owners are, because LD 2283 will return the removed weapon to the owner after the required processes have been taken to eliminate the risk to themselves or others.

I believe LD 2283 will drastically cut down on the use of firearms in suicide and in harm to others both in domestic violence cases and mass shootings. I certainly believe this would have eliminated the Lewiston incident.

I believe every responsible gun owner would support gun legislation if not for their fear of losing their right of gun ownership.

I believe in the second amendment but also realize that weapons have changed drastically since it was adopted, and now new laws must be put in place to ensure responsible purchase of guns and responsible SAFE ownership of guns after purchase.

I am asking for you to please support all safe gun legislation and to vote YES on LD 2283.

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Member of The Gun Safety Group at The First Church in Belfast, Maine