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Senator Beebe-Center, Rep. Hasenfus and members of the committee. My name is Margaret Duhamel and I live in Woolwich. I am a retired primary care doctor and I have lived in ME for 37 years.

Many years ago, before inexpensive security alarms and cameras were as readily available as they are now, my 12 year old nephew and a friend decided they would try breaking into a neighbor's house at night, just to see if they could. Short of the break in itself, they had no intention of stealing or doing any mischief. I think they fancied themselves as ninja warriors or something.

One night they did break in and it woke the neighbor. He turned on the lights and luckily immediately recognized the boys. He was furious and told the boys that they were very lucky he had not brought out his gun. The boys were appropriately punished. Despite being something of a dare-devil in high school, my nephew never got into any significant trouble. He went to college and now lives in Maine, has a family, runs a thriving business and contributes to his community.

I fear that with a Stand Your Ground Law in Maine, in scenarios where immature young people make a stupid or ill conceived decision, there is a significantly higher chance that it will result in them dying rather than just being taught a good lesson. Maine is one of the safest places in the country. I think it will be less safe if LD 486 passes. Thank you.

