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Testimony in Opposition to LD 486  
(Stand your Ground Bill)

R. Bruce Andrews  
Kennebunk, Maine 04043  
March 17, 2025

Good Afternoon, Senator Beebe-Center, Representative Hasenfus, and Members of the Committee.

My name is Bruce Andrews, I live in Kennebunk, Maine, degrees in Chemical and Metallurgical Engineering and MBA. My work experience involved development work on gas turbine engines (jets, if you will), 20 years working for a public classified defense nuclear manufacturing company ending as Senior Vice president of Manufacturing for the Corporation, and subsequently 4 aerospace company turnarounds. I am currently Partner in an A&D middle market sell side advisory firm.

My passion for improved gun safety was stimulated with my last company turnaround, which was located adjacent to Newtown, Ct. I had employees whose children were at the Sandy Hook school in 2012 during the awful attack that killed 20 children (6 and 7 years old) and 6 adult staff members.

- I am here because I strongly oppose LD 486, the so-called "Stand Your Ground" Bill and urge you to oppose it as well.
- This Bill would change the long-accepted Doctrine in Maine and change the dynamic of defense first to offense first. The

consequence of this will be more Maine homicides as has been experienced in every other state.

- The track record since the introduction of "Stand Your Ground" in Florida in 2005 has been a 24% increase in overall homicides and 32% increase in firearm related homicides.
- The overall record of all states that have implemented "Stand Your Ground" has been an 8% average increase in homicides and firearm homicides.
- The Giffords Organization has estimated that an additional 30 – 50 people are killed each month because of "Stand Your Ground" laws.
- Finally, just exactly what problem are we trying to solve? Maine is one of the safest states in the US, if not the safest. Maine's firearm concern is improving gun safety so that we can reduce the number of suicides. 90% of our firearm deaths are suicide. A "Stand Your Ground" law simply doesn't do anything for us.
- Please oppose this Bill.
- Thank you!